# STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

# 1914—2014

# A DEDICATION

## 100 YEARS !

So much has happened over the last one hundred years. Our country has endured two World Wars and several smaller wars. Our Mother Country of Greece just about doubled in size over those years, but then had to endure the Asia Minor Disaster.

The whole world was also affected by the Great Depression of the 1930s, and here in Reading, Pennsylvania a hundred years ago, a few Greek immigrants started a Church. This Church has endured in spite of many trials and tribulations, some of which we listed above.

Our Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Community that was started in 1914, has served thousands and thousands of first, second, third and now fourth generations of Greek Orthodox in Berks County. Our Church, itself, moved three times and expanded in numbers and size each time.

This **CENTENNIAL ALBUM** is no more than a reminder to all of us of the wonderful efforts of our ancestors put forth to build the foundations and continue to develop this great entity that we call Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. This celebration also instills upon all of us today the great responsibility of continuing to build on what our ancestors started and to take it to even greater heights.

**To all the founders and early workers of this Church, we humbly dedicate this CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM**

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

# Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church

1001 East Wyomissing Blvd., Reading, PA 19611, Phone (610) 374-7511

## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

**Protopresbyter Thomas Pappalas, Pastor**

**Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou, Assistant Pastor**
**Rev. James Elliker, Deacon**
**December 16, 2014**

**Archon Gust C. Kraras, General Chairman**
**Archon Christ G. Kraras, Co-Chairman**
**Chris Dikos, Secretary**
**Artie Fecera, President Parish Council**

Angie Barakos
Angel Cammarano
Michael Chaknos
Maria Damore
Des Denne
Athan Dialectos
Harry Dialectos
Mark Dialectos
Tula Donahue
Stavanna Donahue
Connie Fecera
Angel Lee Helm
Marisa Hunsicker
Esther Ganas Miranda
Dr. George Giovanis
Joan Giovanis
Fran Ioannidi
John Ioannidi
Nick Karetas
Alice Karetas
Gus Kotsakis
Anthony Koumaras
Ann Kraras
Dean Kraras
Evan Lambro
Mim Lambros
Steve Lecatsas
Alex Lountzis
Sharon Lountzis
Michael Macaronis
Andrew Maoury
Strat Marmarou
Mike Mavreles
Vangie McGowan
Petroula Mitsiopoulos
Chuck Mowbray
Cindy Petrakis
Frank Petrakis
Frank T. Petrakis
Mary Pettis
Anastasios Phyrillas
Margaret Phyrillas
Tony Phyrillas
Kathy Rohm
Calin Sasaran
Olivia Szczawinski
Elaine Shun
Kim Shunk
Sophia Tzinis
Chris Wagner
Dean Whitman
Sharon Whitman
Des Yianoulis
Alex Zeppos
Filippia Zeppos
Joyce Zervanos
Dr. Stamatis Zervanos
Dr. Gust Zogas
Thomas Zogas

*HONOR THE PAST*
*CELEBRATE THE PRESENT*
*PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE*

## A WORD OF THANKS

Dear Friends,

We have so much for which to be thankful. First of all, I thank our Great God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for enabling me to Chair so many of the special and auspicious events of the life of this Parish for the last 65 years. I thank Fr. Tom for his unending cooperation during his 30-year tenure with us. I thank my son, Chris, who accepted to be my Co-Chairman for this One Hundredth Celebration Year and for lending us his experience in fundraising, as a leader of many major drives in our community. I thank His Eminence Metropolitan Savas for being with us and inspiring us during the Celebration Weekend. I thank Fr. Steve Vlahos from the St. Demetrios Church in Wildwood, NJ for taking the time from his parish to be with us during the Weekend. A special thanks to the 58 men and women who agreed to become Centennial Pillars and help underwrite most of the expenses for the Celebration Weekend.

And, finally, we thank the 335 parishioners who have sent in their family histories for this Historical Album. During the last 65 years I have produced over 35 Commemorative Albums between our Sts. Constantine and Helen Church in Reading, and my other church of St. Demetrios in Wildwood, NJ, the Reading and Wildwood Ahepa Chapters, the GAPA Organization, and St. Matthew's Church of Reading. Many of these albums, especially during the early years, were basically advertisement books created to generate needed funds. As the years progressed, many of the Albums started including a lot of history that I was able to produce from reading years and years of minutes from the various organizations in both Greek and English, to create the history of our founders.

This particular Centennial Commemorative Album has turned out to be a "Labor of Love." As I was writing the stories of all the founders, I was constantly reminded of all the efforts and contributions and sacrifices made by these founders of our churches, our Ahepans, etc., during these first one hundred years. I consider myself blessed for knowing most of these people and working with them for the Church, the Ahepa, the GAPA and all the other organizations. These people were very sincere and devoted workers and servants of the Church and worked very hard for the Church Community and, at times, under very difficult circumstances. Most of them are in the Church Triumphant and I am sure they are very happy and smiling down on us as they see the progress that we have made in building on the foundations that they started.

Again, thank you one and all.

Sincerely,

Gust C. Kraras, General Chairman
Centennial Celebration Committee

MESSAGE

By His All-Holiness
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

To the reverend Parish Priest, the devoted members of the council, and faithful members of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Parish of Reading, Pennsylvania, our beloved in the Lord: Grace and peace from God.

Having learned of your impending festive anniversary, on behalf of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, we write to congratulate you wholeheartedly on the historic occasion of the 100th anniversary of your Church and Parish. From the original vision of your forefathers, your blessed community has flourished over the years and now enjoys a magnificent structure and pastoral ministry in the beautiful State of Pennsylvania. Thus, through the faith and dedication of numerous clergy and parishioners over the past century and to this day, with the grace of God you have arrived at this glorious centennial milestone, which you will deservedly celebrate with your hierarchal shepherd, our brother and concelebrant, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, on Sunday, May 18, 2014.

Of course, your patron saints are very close to our heart as we live in the City of Constantine, which has served as the sacred see of the Ecumenical Patriarchate since the third century. Here we commemorate these great saints every day as we see the walls built by the great emperor and his successors, and recall his saintly mother, through whose profound piety St. Constantine, equal to the apostles, literally transformed history and the world. It is, therefore, a source of great joy for us to witness their names honored in the parishes of the Ecumenical Throne throughout the world.

We congratulate you once again, invoking upon you the rich blessings of God as you continue to serve our Lord in your parish. May you grow "from strength to strength" for the glory of our Church in America, for the edification of our faithful, and for the benefit of the wider community.

At the Ecumenical Patriarchate, on Monday, May 5, 2014

Your fervent supplicant before God,

✠ **BARTHOLOMEW**
Archbishop of Constantinople-New Rome
and Ecumenical Patriarch

# GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

May 18, 2014

Reverend Father Thomas Pappalas, Proistamenos
Reverend Father Spyridon Papademetriou
Reverend James Elliker, Deacon
Archon Gust C. Kraras, Chairman
Centennial Celebration
Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
1001 East Wyomissing Boulevard
Reading, Pennsylvania 19611

Reverend and dear Fathers, Mr. Craras and Members of the Centennial Celebration Committee, Distinguished Guests, Members of the Parish Council and Faithful of the Church of Saints Constantine and Helen,

Χριστός Ἀνέστη! *Christ is Risen!*

It is with particular joy that I extend to you my congratulations as you reach a momentous milestone in the life of your ecclesial community, the Centennial Celebration of your beloved parish. In thought and prayer, I join my beloved brother in Christ, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, in celebrating this historic milestone with you.

By celebrating this milestone, you honor the memory of the founders and faithful who toiled to establish this blessed community and the succession of generations of clergy and laity who worshipped together and ministered with apostolic faith and conviction to bring faithful closer to God and to perpetuate their dynamic Ecumenical Orthodox and Hellenic heritage.

Today, you stand as an active witness and living testimony to their zeal, their faith, their courage, and the dynamism of their *diakonia.* With God's sustaining grace, I am confident that you will continue to offer your own substantive contribution to the *work of ministry, for the edifying of the Body of Christ* (Ephesians 4:11-3).

With my best wishes and heartfelt congratulations on reaching this meaningful milestone in the life of your community and my prayers for many more years of faithful service in advancing the sharing the truth of the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ, I remain,

With paternal love in Christ,

Archbishop Demetrios of America

† DEMETRIOS
Archbishop of America

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Web Site: www.goarch.org

METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

## HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SAVAS OF PITTSBURGH

# Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

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**Deacon Jim Elliker** (610) 926-9609

Metropolis of Pittsburgh


Brother and Sisters in Christ,

Almost 30 years ago I was asked during my interview with the Parish Council, "What is your view of the relationship between the priest and his parish? and how long do you plan to stay?" I responded by saying that those are two good questions. In regard to the relationship between a priest and his parish, I said that theologically, the relationship is like that of a marriage (something I believe with all my heart). And because the relationship between a priest and his parish is like a marriage, I don't plan on leaving until Our Lord calls me home.

Like a husband and wife, the priest and his parish must trust each other and be honest and truthful with each other. They should not hide their feelings, but let the other know what concerns them. I always appreciate and feel close to the parishioner who approaches me with love and respect to tell me his or her concern or even criticism. When there is disagreement or conflict between the priest and the parish, it must be addressed immediately. No one in our parish should *ever go to bed angry.*

Like a husband and wife, the priest and the parish must love each other as "Christ loves the Church". Love demands sacrifice and compromise. According to St. Paul, *"Love is longsuffering and is kind. Love does not envy. Love does not parade itself, is not puffed up. Love does not behave rudely; does not seek its own; is not provoked; thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."*
*I Corinthians 13: 4-7*

The goal of a husband and wife in a Christian household is to build each other up, compliment each other, and help each other live the Christian life. The same is true for the priest and his parish. We share the priestly ministry and our calling from Jesus to lead others to salvation. Christ is the authority and we are all His servants. We are a team that works together to do His will.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, I am truly grateful for our 29 plus years together. God has blessed us with a wonderful marriage. God has blessed our parish and has brought us to this milestone, this 100 Year Celebration. For a century, He has guided and inspired our clergy, council members, ladies of the Philoptochos Society, youth, and all the wonderful and hard-working volunteers and parishioners who have, throughout the years, faithfully served Him. We have a dynamic parish. Together we have accomplished much.

I would like to thank every one of you for your warmth, love, and support over the many years. I speak on behalf of Presvytera Anne, Jennifer, Jarett, Peter, Renee, and Eleni when I say we love you and are happy to be a part of our beloved Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church as we begin the next 100 years in Reading, Pennsylvania.

In Christ,
+ Fr Tom
Father Tom

GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

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**Archon Gust C. Kraras, General Chairman**
**Archon Christ G. Kraras, Co-Chairman**
**Chris Dikos, Secretary**
**Artie Fecera, President Parish Council**

February 13, 2015

Ευλαβεστατον Πρωτοψαλτην και υπευθυνον Εκδοτην του Λευκωματος της 100 ετηριδος της Ενοριας Αγιων Κωνσταντινου και Ελένης κ. Κωνσταντινου Κραρα

Αγαπητέ κ. Κώστα,

Γραφώ εις απάντησίν του αιτήματος σας να εκφράσω γραπτόν χαιρετισμον, με την ευκαιρίαν της 100 ετηριδος της Ενορίας κατά το παρόν ετος τούτο.

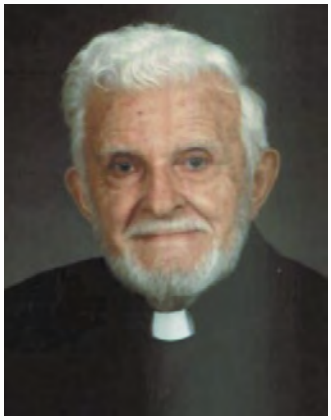
Εξ αρχής του εις Reading διορισμού μου ως Ιερατικώς Προϊσταμένου της τότε ενορίας του ΑγιουΑποστόλου και Ευαγγελιστού Ματθαίου, εις το κεντρον της πόλεως του Reading, οπου επι 20ετιαν επηλαυσα την συνεργασιαν του τότε Πατρος Γεωργίου Γιάνναρη και εν συνέχεια του έκτοτε και μέχρι σήμερον υπηρετούντος Πρώτοπρεσβυτέρου π. Θεμιστοκλεους Παππαλα, απολαμβάνων πάντοτε την αγαπην και τον σεβασμον μικρών τε και μεγάλων εις την καθόλου Ενοριαν.

Ευχαριστών ολους και δι' όλα πάντοτε, συγχαίρω τους πάντας δια τον καθόλα επιτυχή εορτασμον, εύχομαι συνεχή την πρόοδον και την παντοτεινην συνεργασιαν της νέας μας γενεάς και εμμονην εις την Ορθοδοξού μας πιστιν και παραδόσεις μας, προς δικαιαν ικανοποίησίν των πρωτεργατών πατέρων και μητέρων μας.

Εν Κυριω,
Πρώτοπρεσβυτέρος Σπυριδων Κ. Παπαδημητριου

**REV. PETER N. MURTOS, *Th.M.,M.A.***

**PROTOPRESBYTER**



February 27, 2014

The Rev. Fr. Thomas Papalas, Protoptesbyter
Mr. Gust C. Kraras, Chairman
The Faithful of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
Reading, PA

Dear Friends:

In the cosmic scene that is measured by billions of years, one hundred are just a dot, not of much significance, but in the life of your community which started at the beginning of the last century with a few immigrants coming from their native country to start and establish a new life, these hundred years are indeed very important. They represent and embody a great amount of struggles, goals, dreams and aspirations that have been brought to fruition step by step.

A Herculean effort was put to bear in the purchase of a building in the downtown area, renovated and used as a place of worship for many years, because the people were motivated by a strong unity of purpose, having its roots in a deep devotion to our Orthodox Faith, values and tradition as they cherished from their parents, culminating in their determination to overcome all difficulties.

Then, during my tenure, the Community decided to take a very big, strenuous yet wise step: In order to fulfill the needs of the growing numbers it was decided to build the present magnificent Church complex on this extremely beautiful location.

And now you all are proud and happy celebrating the Centennial Anniversary. I am happy, blessed and privileged to have served you during that critical period. I have enjoyed your cooperation as well as you indefatigable efforts and sacrifices.

This century of accomplishments, however, is just a page or one chapter, if you will, in the long Book of Life. We who are in the here and now, are but a link in the long chain that connects the past generation with us and shall inevitably have the future ones tied up to us. These hundred years, therefore, mark the starting point for the next chapter. You, dear friends, who are here present will start now writing the next chapter by contributing in the life of the Church together with all the future generation yet unborn, following on the footsteps of the past, worshipping in this sanctuary and advancing Christ's Message of Love, Peace and Salvation.

With my love and best wishes,

Father Peter N. Murtos

Fr. Peter N. Murtos

*4809 Stanford Street · Raleigh, N.C. 27609-5335 · 919/782-1352*

# Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

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**Deacon Jim Elliker** (610) 926-9609


February 13, 2015

To Father Tom, Father Spyridon, Our esteemed Choirs, Parish Council, Philoptochos, AHEPA, Sunday School teachers, our Youth, our families, and the greater community of Saints Constantine and Helen:

Congratulations to everyone on 100 years as a community! Such an accomplishment reminds us of the sacrifice of those gone before us to establish such a community, and the witness it will continue be in the greater Reading area of our historic, vibrant, and beloved Greek Orthodox Faith.

It continues to be a great honor, for our family and myself, to serve you as your Deacon for the last seven of those years. Your graciousness and love in accepting and embracing us into the community has been a source of great joy.

We recall our first arrival in 1981, to meet Father George, and then to baptize our first child Stephen into the Church. I was not yet Orthodox, yet felt, along with Roula, that we should raise our children here. We were asked to assist with Goya, and we met so many wonderful young people who now have families of their own. We taught Sunday School for the high school students and are still amazed at the pictures in the hallways. We recall with great fondness Cali English being our children's first Sunday School teacher, the taking care of the parking lot for the Bazaar in the pouring rain, a delightful encounter with Archbishop Iakovos on a business trip where after learning I was evangelical but not yet Orthodox said "we have much to learn from you!" All of these experiences, plus the patience, love, and nudging of Father Tom, have helped us experience and grow in your love – the most precious of all gifts.

I often describe to many that the Orthodox Church is like entering a long hallway that stretches down 2000 years (and more). In the hallway you find jewels, lightly covered with ancient dust. If you breath on the dust – the jewels shine with brilliance. And it turns out the most brilliant jewel is love. It still feels that way after many years.

The journey also reminds us of one of my favorite moments (among many) in the scriptures, where the risen Lord is walking along with two disciples on a road shortly after the resurrection, and yet they do not recognize Him. He inquires what they are talking about, and they describe all the events that had just taken place in Jerusalem, including the possible resurrection! He explains to them, still unrecognized, all the scriptures that predicted such events. When it was time to stop for dinner, the two invite this mysterious sojourner to join them, and when He breaks the bread, they instantly recognize their risen Lord. And then He disappears. They disciples run back to Jerusalem to tell the others what they had just seen.

This is our Church. We walk alongside others, as friends, and open the astounding facts of life eternal, and then at some point we recognize Him in the Divine Liturgy, especially in the breaking of the Bread. Further, we run joyfully to exclaim that there is Life. And that Life has overcome the heartache of the world.

Thank you so much for allowing me your servant, and our entire family to walk alongside each of you on our journey of joy together.

Deacon Jim

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METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH


May 18, 2014

Christos Anesti - Brothers & Sisters in Christ:

As your Parish Council President I would like to welcome everyone to our 100th Anniversary Gala and a special welcome to His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, all attending Clergy and visiting dignitaries.

Many thanks to the Centennial Committee and all the members for their hard work in organizing this celebration and all the special events leading up to this evening. It has been a momentous year.

For 100 years Sts. Constantine & Helen has been blessed with the countless men and women through the years whose faith, vision and sacrifice have helped to build this house of prayer, this dwelling place of God...Sts. Constantine & Helen. This is also an opportunity to celebrate the lives and works of all who have worshipped here at Sts. Constantine & Helen.

The 100th year anniversary of our Parish is very significant for us. Hundreds have been baptized, married here and celebrated their sacraments. Our Parish has been a source of comfort and compassion for those who came to pray at funerals. Our Parish touches so many people. Some of our parishioners have lived their entire lives here and experienced the many changes and remain supporters through all the years. Others have recently arrived and seek to share their Orthodox Faith and love of God in this community.

2014 is an important year for us to remember. Celebrate not only the past but to look ahead. We will do so in a spirit of prayer and continuing to "Abide in God's love and securing our future".

With love in Christ,

Artie Fecera
Council President

"FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON."

# THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Late in 2013, Gust C. Kraras was approached by Father Tom and the Parish Council to chair the yearlong festivities celebrating the 100th Anniversary of our beloved Church. With Mr. Kraras' vast knowledge and experience in producing these events, he graciously accepted the challenge with the addition of his son, Christ Kraras as Co-Chairman. This energetic duo immediately formed a committee to include all the past and present leaders of the various organizations. This dynamic committee of between 40 and 50 people, met monthly to organize the many activities that were planned to honor the various groups within the Church. Their enthusiasm became contagious as they were able to inspire most of the congregation to participate in the various events, culminating with the beautiful Banquet and Dinner Dance that was held on May 18, 2014.

His Eminence, Metropolitan Savas blessed us with his presence, as well as over 350 guests that were in attendance. This committee also worked diligently to produce this wonderful Commemorative Centennial Album. Dr. Gust Zogas and his son, Thomas Zogas, headed the committee that procured all the family histories, while Gust Kraras edited and produced the Album. It is through this hard-working group that Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church will have a year of lasting memories as we recognized the 100th Anniversary.

## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

***FRONT ROW:*** Gust Zogas, Harry Dialectos, Gust Kraras, Ann Kraras, Arthur Fecera, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Fr. Spyridon Papademitriou, Connie Fecera, Alice Karetas, Nick Karetas, Filippia Zeppos, Evangeline McGowan; ***SECOND ROW:*** Angel Cammarano, Margaret Phyrillas, Patricia Donahue, Cynthia Petrakis, Kathy Rohm, Deacon James Elliker, Christos Dikos, Despina Denne, Mary Pettis, Stavanna Donahue; ***BACK ROW:*** Anastasios Phyrillas, Steve Lecatsas, Christopher Wagner, Despina Yianoulis, Tony Phyrillas, Dean Whitman, John Ioannidi, Christ Kraras, Kim Shunk, Frank Petrakis, Sharon Whitman, Joyce Zervanos, Elaine Shunk, Stamatis Zervanos, Michael Mavreles.

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Joan Giovanis
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Vangie McGowan
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Alex Zeppos
Filippia Zeppos
Joyce Zervanos
Dr. Stamatis Zervanos
Dr. Gust Zogas
Thomas Zogas

*HONOR THE PAST, CELEBRATE THE PRESENT, PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE*

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BANQUET PROGRAM

***WELCOME***
Archon Gust C. Kraras, General Chairman
Centennial Celebration Committee

***PRESENTATION OF THE DAIS AND SPECIAL GUESTS***
Archon Chris G. Kraras, Toastmaster

***NATIONAL ANTHEMS***
Star Spangled Banner
Ode to Liberty – National Anthem of Greece
Sung by Presbytera Anne Pappalas

***INVOCATION***
His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, Diocese of Pittsburgh
Assisted by Rev. Deacon James Elliker

***DINNER***

***PROCLAMATIONS***
The Honorable Judith L. Schwank, State Senator 11th District
The Honorable Vaughn Spencer, Mayor, City of Reading, PA

***MUSICAL INTERLUDE***

***COMMENTS***
Despina Denne, President, St. Xenia Chapter Philoptochos Society

***COMMENTS AND BURNING OF THE MORTGAGE***
Artie Fecera, President, Parish Council

***COMMENTS***
Protopresbyter Thomas Pappalas, Pastor
Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church

***ADDRESS***
His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, Diocese of Pittsburgh

***BENEDICTION***
His Eminence Metropolitan Savas
Assisted by Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou
Assistant Pastor Sts. Constantine & Helen Church

***MUSIC AND DANCING***

# STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CELEBRATES 100-YEAR LEGACY IN READING

By Tony Phyrillas

It was a celebration 100 years in the making.

Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church celebrated a remarkable milestone in 2014 – a century of worship and witness of the Orthodox faith in the City of Reading, Pa.

A Grand Banquet on May 17, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, attended by 350 parishioners and honored guests was the culmination of months of activity and special events leading up to the Centennial Celebration Weekend.

The highlight of the banquet was the keynote address by Metropolitan Savas, the spiritual leader of Greek Orthodox churches in three states, including Pennsylvania. His eminence also attended a dinner in his honor on Saturday, May 16, 2014, at The Hitching Post, where he had an opportunity to meet with members of the Parish Council and other church leaders.

Metropolitan Savas spoke several times about how impressed he was with the thriving Greek Orthodox community in Reading and Berks County and how rejuvenated he was being in the presence of so many dedicated and faithful stewards of Christ. Metropolitan Savas said Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox will serve as “a role model” for the rest of the Diocese.

During his two-day visit to Reading, His Eminence also presided during a spiritually uplifting Vesper Service on Saturday, May 16, and celebrated the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 17.

After the Vespers service on Saturday, Metropolitan Savas took time to Tonsure most of the Altar Boys of our church.

The spectacular Centennial Weekend Celebration was the result of months of planning and hard work by a dedicated 62-member Centennial Celebration Committee. The overall chairman of the celebration was Gust Kraras, with Christ Kraras serving as co-chairman.

Protopresbyter Thomas Pappalas, who has served as pastor for 30 years, was also involved in the planning of the Centennial Celebration.

Leading up to the Centennial Celebration Weekend, the church hosted a series of mini-celebrations to honor all the organizations of the church.

Specific Sundays were set aside to recognize the Philoptochos, the Sunday School, the Greek School, the Parish Council, the Church Choirs, the Altar Boys, the GOYA and the Order of AHEPA.

## STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH CELEBRATES 100-YEAR LEGACY IN READING

Each of those Sundays featured an Artoklasia Service (Blessing of the Five Loaves), followed by a luncheon for the entire church community. The various organizations also put together displays of historic photographs and memorabilia, and in some cases, put together a slide-show presentation of the group's history.

A special booklet was prepared each of those Sundays listing all the past and present members of the various organizations, as well as a brief history of the group and historic photographs. The booklets were edited and produced by White Star Tours and the Kraras Family.

"We must honor our ancestors," Gust Kraras said at the initial Centennial Celebration Committee meeting. "We owe the founders of this church for their struggles to get us where we are today. We must pass on the legacy to our children and grandchildren."

Members of the various church groups were also photographed after church services for inclusion in the Commemorative Centennial Book.

The celebrations were made possible through the generosity of three dozen parishioners who stepped forward as Pillars with donations to help pay for the luncheons and the booklets.

The initial group of Pillars made the special Sunday events leading up to the Centennial Weekend possible by making $1,000 donations to cover the costs of the events.

Artie and Connie Fecera sponsored the celebration of the Parish Council; Evan and Mim Lambros sponsored the celebration of the Altar Boys; Alex and Filippia Zeppos sponsored the celebration of the Greek School; Christ and Ann Kraras sponsored the celebration of the Choirs; Bernie and Tula Donahue sponsored the celebration of the Sunday School; George and Angie Barakos sponsored the celebration of the GOYA; Mauro and Angel Cammarano sponsored the celebration of the Philoptochos; Gust Kraras sponsored the celebration of the Order of AHEPA. Gust and Doris Zogas also contributed $1,000 toward the cost of the events.

Overall, some 65 parishioners stepped forward to donate between $500 to $1,000 toward the Centennial Pillars program, ensuring that the year-long celebration was fully paid-for without the use of any church funds.

The final work of the Centennial Celebration Committee was the preparation of a hardbound deluxe commemorative book to be published to mark the occasion of the Consecration. Under the supervision of Gust Kraras, the book features the history of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in words and pictures and family histories of the hundreds of families who are members of the church. Gust Zogas supervised the writing of the family histories.

## MANY THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PARTICIPANTS WHO UNDERWROTE ALL THE EXPENSES FOR THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

## CENTENNIAL PILLARS

St. Xenia Philoptochos Society
William Penn Chap. #61 Order Of AHEPA
Wildwood Chapter #450 Order of AHEPA
Auman Funeral Home
Mauro & Angel Cammarano
Andrew & Sophia Cammarano
Michael & Karen Chaknos
William Chaknos
Marian Cheri
Athan & Gretchen Dialectos
Chris & Val Dikos
Bernard & Tula Donahue
Deacon Jim & Roula Elliker
Artie & Connie Fecera
John & Despina Frangakis
Peter Giorgi
Dr. George & Joan Giovanis
Scott & Angel Lee Helm
Scott & Marisa Hunsicker
Nicholas D. & Alice Karetas
Gust Kraras
Christ & Ann Kraras
Dean & Jennifer Kraras
Greg & Stephanie Labe
Evan & Miriam Lambros
Steve & Joyce Lecatsas
John & Sharon Lountzis
Philip & Kathy Macaronis
Bernard & Susan Mara
Michael & Anastasia Mavreles
Charles & Stella Mowbray
The Frankie T. Petrakis Family
Katherine Savadelis
Dean & Sharon Whitman
George & Shirleen Yatron
Paul Michael Yatron
Stratton & Sarah Yatron
George & Dianne Zeppos
George & Eleny Zeppos
Alex & Philipia Zeppos
Dr. Stamatis & Joyce Zervanos
William & Elizabeth Zeswitz
Dr. Gust & Doris Zogas

## ASSOCIATE CENTENNIAL PILLARS

Darryl & Anna Burkman
Despina Denne
Joanne Dialectos
Christ & Sherry Ganas
George Krallis
Michael Macaronis
Dr. Peter & Cornelia Maroulis
Shawn & Heather Moliatu
Amelia P. Morris
Anthony & Maria Saravanos
Peter & Christine Shaeffer
Kim & Elaine Shunk
Leslie Snyder
Christopher & Stefanie Wagner
Despina Yianoulis
Demosthenes & Christine Zeppos
Pete & Maria Zeppos
Alexander & Colleen Zeppos
Chris & Hariklia Zervanos
Thomas & Linda Zogas

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

**GREETINGS:**

**It is my pleasure to join with members of the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church to celebrate its 100th anniversary.**

**This church has served the Reading community for the past 100 years, leaving an impact on the hearts and minds of everyone its work has touched. Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church has provided for the needs of its members, cultivated fellowship among its congregation, comforted the dispirited and served those in need. It is my hope that this church will continue its service to the community for years to come.**

**As Governor, and on behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I am pleased to congratulate all those associated with this church on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable anniversary celebration.**

Tom Corbett

**TOM CORBETT**
**Governor**
**May 18, 2014**

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE GOVERNOR

# Senate of Pennsylvania

HARRISBURG, PA

## Congratulations

In the Senate, May 7, 2014

Whereas, The parishioners and friends of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church are celebrating the centennial anniversary of the founding of the church with a Grand Banquet and Ball on May 18, 2014. Blessed with a rich history, the parishioners of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church have been coming together to worship since the church was established by Greek immigrants who emigrated to the Reading area to work for the famous Hollis Candy Factory, owned by the first family from Greece to settle in Reading. They pooled their resources together in order to build a new church community at Lemon and Chestnut Streets to meet the religious needs of the more than seven hundred Greek immigrants living in the Berks County area. During the past thirty years, under the spiritual leadership of Father Thomas Pappalas, Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church has marked an unprecedented era of growth and prosperity. The present spacious, beautiful church and the adjoining parish campus at 1001 East Wyommissing Boulevard in Reading are a monument to the selfless devotion, sacrifices, generosity, labor and love of the descendants of those early Greek immigrants, who came to Berks County, bringing with them their hopes, dreams and faith. On its one hundredth anniversary, the more than two thousand parishioners of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church are turning their faces to the future with the same faith, zeal and dedication of its founders.

Now therefore, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania rejoices with Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church as its recommits itself to the spiritual ideals and traditions which have sustained it for one hundred years; offers best wishes for continued service to God and humanity;

And directs that a copy of this document, sponsored by Senator Judith L. Schwank, be transmitted to Father Thomas Pappalas, Pastor, and the parishioners of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, c/o the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1741 Papermill Road, Wyommissing, Pennsylvania.

SEAL OF THE SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA

Judith L. Schwank

Senator Judith L. Schwank

Attest:

Megan Tolino Considine, Secretary

JIM GERLACH
6TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES
HOUSE LAND CONSERVATION CAUCUS
CO-CHAIR

**Congress of the United States**
**House of Representatives**
**Washington, DC 20515–3806**

2442 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4315
FAX: (202) 225-8440

www.gerlach.house.gov
twitter.com/jimgerlach
www.facebook.com/repjimgerlach

April 7, 2014

Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Pastor
Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church
1001 East Wyomissing Blvd.
Reading, PA 19611

Dear Father Pappalas:

Just a quick note to offer my heartiest congratulations on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church!

For the last century, Sts. Constantine and Helen has stood as a bastion of faith for the Reading Area Greek Orthodox community and has faithfully served the spiritual needs of its parishioners.

Again, congratulations to you and all Church members on your anniversary and best wishes to Sts. Constantine and Helen on its next hundred years.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress

JG/gbf

Congratulations!!

DISTRICT OFFICES:

BERKS COUNTY
840 NORTH PARK ROAD
WYOMISSING, PA 19610
(610) 376-7630
FAX: (610) 376-7633

CHESTER COUNTY
111 EAST UWCHLAN AVENUE
EXTON, PA 19341
(610) 594-1415
FAX: (610) 594-1419

LEBANON COUNTY
400 SOUTH 8TH STREET, ROOM 110
LEBANON, PA 17042
(717) 454-0462
FAX: (717) 454-0496

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
580 MAIN STREET, SUITE 4
TRAPPE, PA 19426
(610) 409-2780
FAX: (610) 409-7988

*1914 - 2014*

*U.S. Senator Pat Toomey proudly recognizes*

# *Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church's 100th Anniversary.*

*Congratulations on this significant milestone for your congregation and for continuing to be a pillar in the Reading area community.*

*Pat Toomey*
*U.S. Senator*

UNITED STATES SENATE

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
JUDGES' CHAMBERS
BERKS COUNTY COURTHOUSE
633 COURT STREET
READING, PENNSYLVANIA 19601-3540

PAUL M. YATRON
PRESIDENT JUDGE

610-478-6208 EXT. 5736
FAX 610-898-9011

May 9, 2014

Father Thomas Pappalas and Archon Gust C. Kraras
Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church
1001 East Wyomissing Boulevard
Reading, PA 19611

Dear Father Pappalas and Archon Kraras:

I am pleased and gratified to have been invited to participate in the Centennial Celebration of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. I have vivid recollection of attending both Greek and Sunday schools at the old church on Eighth Street, and of the construction of the current church, which was completed when I was in high school.

I am the proud son of Paul Peter Yatron and grandson of Peter Haralambos Yatron. Both exercised leadership positions in the church, and my grandfather is remembered to this day by many as one of the outstanding leaders of the Greek community.

My father and uncles provided cabinetry and related items for the construction of the new church. In my youth, I was privileged to work on those items at the Adelphi Kitchens factory. I recall being admonished by my father and uncles to take extra special care in finishing items that were to be installed in the new church.

I have observed over the years the enormous contributions made to this community and to the state and nation by parishioners of our church. They have excelled in every field of endeavor, including business, the professions, government, education, and the military. Our church can take righteous pride in the accomplishments of her sons and daughters over these hundred years.

It is particularly appropriate to note the importance of the annual bazaar. I can think of no other event held in this county that brings together peoples of every ethnicity and from every municipality in this county and beyond.

I want to extend my congratulations on this august and joyous occasion. My wife, Susan, and I greatly look forward to the Grand Banquet and Ball.

Very truly yours,

Paul M. Yatron

# CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
815 WASHINGTON STREET, ROOM 2-33
READING, PA 19601-3690
(610) 655-6234

MAYOR
VAUGHN D. SPENCER

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** *Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church was founded in 1914 at Lemon & Chestnut streets in Reading, Pennsylvania, holding residence there until 1946 when it moved to 8th and Court streets, where it remained until 1970 at which time the church erected a new structure at 1001 E. Wyomissing Boulevard where it continues to this day; and*

**WHEREAS,** *One hundred years ago, a few Greek immigrants residing in Berks County pooled together their meager resources to organize and build a new church community, resulting in thousands of Greek immigrants and Greek Orthodox parishioners; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Both these early unschooled immigrants and their descendants excelled in all walks of life in this area of Pennsylvania, continuing to be prominent members of society in many fields and professions; and*

**WHEREAS,** *This year marks the centennial anniversary of the founding of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and as such, a consequent Centennial Celebration to commemorate the many accomplishments set forth by the Church and its parishioners; and*

**WHEREAS,** *In conjunction with the Centennial Celebration, a Commemorative Centennial Album will be published containing the parish's one-hundred-year history and listing many contributions to society by the parishioners, as well as descriptions of the Centennial Celebration events,*

**NOW, THEREFORE,** *I, Vaughn D. Spencer, Mayor of the City of Reading, do hereby recognize the Centennial Celebration of*

## Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church

*in the City of Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Reading, Pennsylvania, 18th day of May, 2014.*

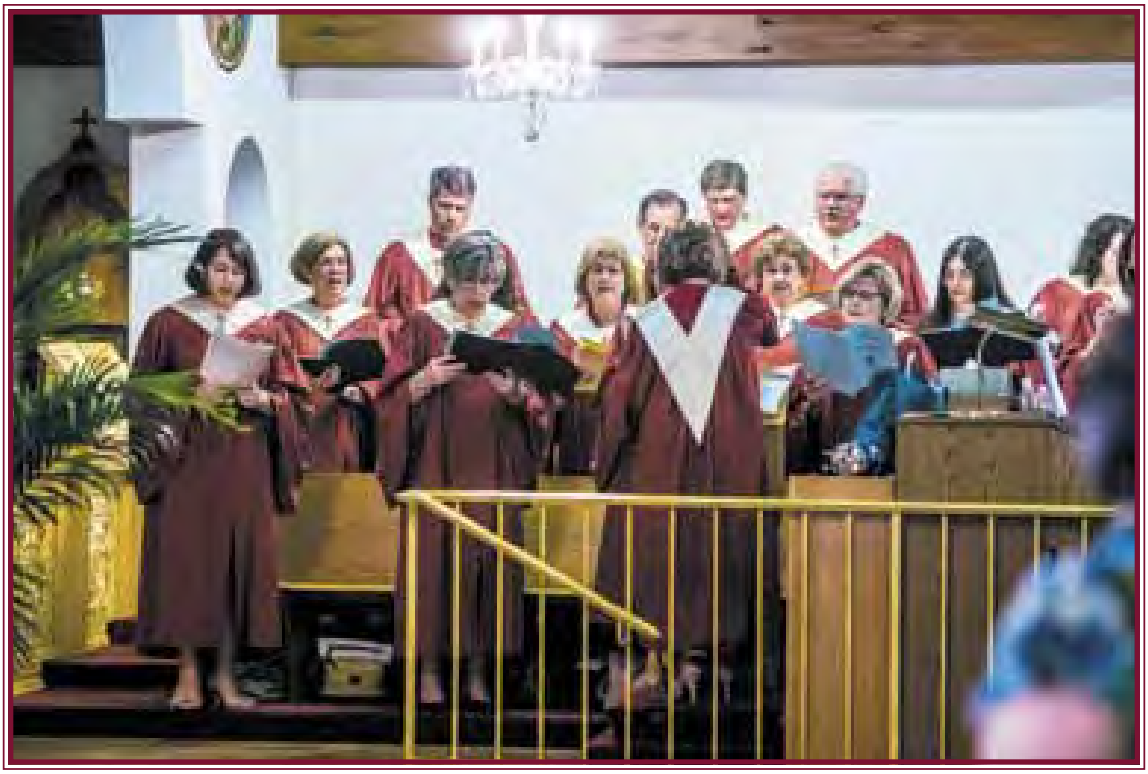
*Vaughn D. Spencer*
*Mayor*

FAX: (610) 655-6697 TDD: (610) 655-6442

His Eminence Metropolitan Savas entering the Church for the Great Vespers, escorted by Fr. Alexander Goussetis, Fr. Steven Vlahos, Fr. Demetrios Nikoloudakis, Fr. John Onofrey, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, and Deacon James Elliker.

His Eminence Metropolitan Savas during the Great Vespers.

Altar boys surrounding Bishop's throne with chanters, Gust C. Kraras and Jordan Zanetis.

Clergy participating in the Great Vespers
Fr. Demetrios Nikoloudakis, Fr. Ovidu Sabau, Fr. Steven Vlahos, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Fr. John Onofrey, Fr. Alexander Goussetis, Fr. Spyridon Papademetriou.

Our Choir during the Great Vespers, directed by Ann Kraras, Choir Director Angeliki Miranda, Karen Chaknos, Sharon Whitman, Joyce Zervanos, Maria Kotsakis, Alice Karetas, Karl Krohn, Evan Zervanos, Dean Whitman, Christ G. Kraras, Paula Berstler, Joanne Baxewanis.

Tonsuring of Altar boy, Tommy Hunsicker, by His Eminence Metropolitan Savas.

Altar boys and visiting clergy during Saturday evening Vesper Service with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas.

Archon Gust C. Kraras and Choir Members with His Eminence Metropoiltan Savas after Saturday evening Vesper Serivce.

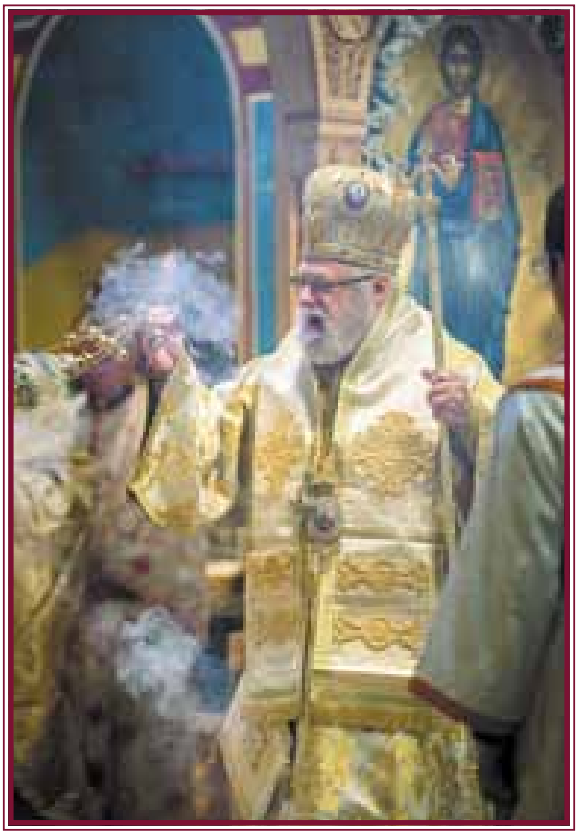
Welcoming His Eminence Metropoiltan Savas with flowers:
*(left to right)* Mrs. Filippia Zeppos, Maria Wagner, Christopher and Alex Zeppos.

Kefi Dancing Group entertaining in Church Hall, following Saturday evening Vesper Service.

Kefi Dancing Group with His Eminence Metropolitan Savas, following Saturday evening Vesper Service.

Metropolitan Savas with Father Tom's granddaughter.

Great Entrance



Metropolitan Savas censing

Great Entrance

Artoclasia Services

Metropolitan Savas entering the hall escorted by Fr. Pappalas and Parish Council President Artie Fecera.

Welcoming Remarks by Centennial Celebration General Chair, Archon Gust C. Kraras.

Introductions by Banquet Toastmaster, Archon Christ G. Kraras; members of Dais: Mrs. Despina Denne, President of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society; Mrs. Ann Kraras, wife of Toastmaster; Archon Gust C. Kraras, Centennial General Chair; His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh; Protopresbyter Thomas and Presbytera Anne Pappalas; Mr. Artie Fecera, Parish Council President, and wife, Mrs. Constance Fecera.

Presbytera Anne Pappalas leading in the singing of the National Anthems.

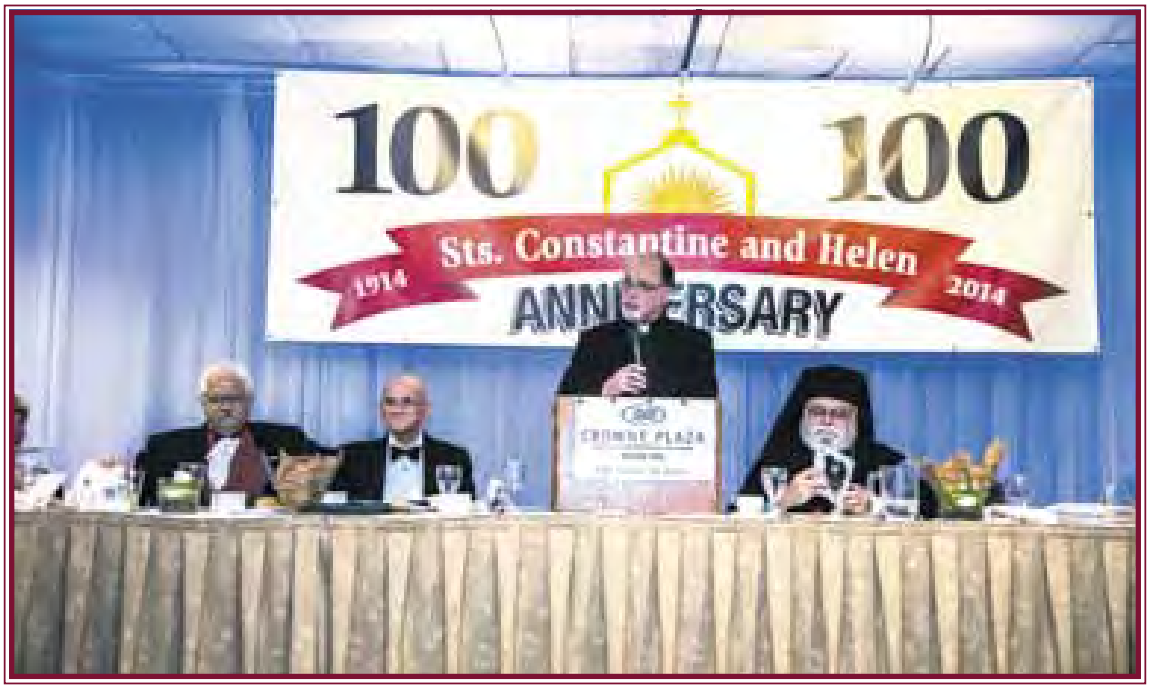
Invocation by Metropolitan Savas

Centennial Banquet harpist, Mary-Kate Spring Lee

Centennial Banquet featured pianist, Dr. Louis Dalaveris

Ice sculpture depicting 100th Anniversary

Burning of Church mortgage: *(left to right)* Artie Fecera, Church Council President; Nicholas Karetas, Church Financial Secretary; Gust Kraras, Centennial Chair; Father Thomas Pappalas; Angel Helm, Financial Committee Chair.




Comments by Father Thomas Pappalas at Centennial Banquet

# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

## PAST AND PRESENT CHOIR MEMBERS

***FRONT ROW:*** Catherine Zaharis, Evangeline McGowan, Cornelia Dikos, Esther Kovras, Lula Goodhart, Christine Dialectos, Cindy Petrakis, Joyce Zervanos, Deacon Jim Elliker, Father Tom Pappalas, Ann Kraras, Crisanne Bansner, Karissa Dialectos, James Tsakeris, Evriklia Koutalelis, Georgine Schlappich, Shirley Tripolitis, Mary Kontaxes, Vasso Tilley, Pauline Heckman; ***SECOND ROW:*** Sandra Zervanos, Kalliope English, Mary Sianis, Kathy Rohm, Alice Karetas, Aspacia Simotas, Marina Baxewanis, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Joan Giovanis, Rosemary Zaffary, Despina Denne, Cassandra Pettis Karamanos, Despina Green, Nick Karetas, Maria Eleni Sterious, Nysia Petrakis; ***THIRD ROW:*** Susan Seibert, Stella Mowbray, Karen Chaknos, Shannon Karetas, Sharon Whitman, Paula Berstler, Marika Krallis, Maro Kotsakis, Angie Miranda, Deborah Lambros, Elaine Shunk, Fran Ioannidi, Lisa Meitzler, Despina Yianoulis;
***FOURTH ROW:*** Daniel Chupak, George Yatron, Stamatis Zervanos, Cathy Pavlatos, Nikita Zervanos, Mary Dialectos, Evan Zervanos, John Tripolitis, Leon Miller, Dean Whitman, Maria Damore, Mark Dialectos, Joanne Baxewanis, Karl Krohn, Barbara Futrick, John Baxewanis, Christ Kraras, Molly Kramer, Frank Petrakis, Jocelyn Dialectos, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Stavanna Donahue, Angel Cammarano, Joanne Weidner, Athena Wagner.

# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

**2013-1014 CHOIR MEMBERS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Christine Dialectos, Cindy Petrakis, Joyce Zervanos, Deacon Jim Elliker, Fr Tom Pappalas, Ann Kraras, Crisanne Bansner, Karissa Dialectos, Jocelyn Dialectos, Alice Karetas, Aspacia Simotas, Paula Berstler, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Maro Kotsakis, Rosemary Zaffary, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Joan Giovanis; ***SECOND ROW:*** Stella Mowbray, Karen Chaknos, Shannon Karetas, Sharon Whitman, Maria Damore, Marika Krallis, Angie Miranda, Stavanna Donahue; ***THIRD ROW:*** Evan Zervanos, Mary Zervanos, John Tripolitis, Leon Miller, Dean Whitman, Mark Dialectos, Joanne Baxewanis, Barbara Futrick, Karl Krohn, John Baxewanis; *MISSING:* Christ G. Kraras, Kathy Ioannidis.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHOIR DIRECTOR

As we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our beloved Church of Sts. Constantine and Helen, we begin to realize just how many men and women from past generations have helped to establish and shape the progression of our Church parish. At the top of this incredible list is the Choir! Close to 350 parishioners have sung in the Church choir at one time or another. At its inception, this group consisted mostly of first-generation Greek Americans, who gathered within the Church to share their common ancestry, to enjoy each other's company, and at the same time, to enhance the Divine Liturgy by singing praises to God. Most of these first members are no longer with us, but their memories live on through the new generations that have continued in their footsteps to sustain the music ministry of their predecessors.

My dad, George Baxewanis, faithfully served as choir director for close to 65 years, and had as his goal to invite anyone and everyone to sing in the choir. He met with great success through the years. He even had initiated the first Junior Choir, since he knew how important it was to include children in that goal.

As his daughter, and current choir director, I have been assigned the awesome task of carrying on his legacy. Each Sunday, as I stand in his former spot and lead the choir, I always am reminded of him, almost as if he were there, watching me. His love and dedication for his choir was unprecedented! Only through God's grace am I able to attempt to fill his shoes, and direct a group of wonderful and dedicated individuals who have assisted me greatly in tackling this responsibility.

May God continue to bless our choir members, help them to enhance the Liturgy through their beautiful voices, and to provide spiritual inspiration to our parishioners. And, to those choir members who have passed on, and surely are singing their praises in heaven, may their memories be eternal!

Yours in Christ!
Ann Kraras, Choir Director

# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

## HISTORY OF THE CHOIR
## Formerly the Hellenic Choral Society

The first interest in starting a Choir can be dated back to 1929 when Father George Nassis came to Reading. After first initiating a Greek School, he then turned his efforts towards a choir, and called together many of the youth of the Church. After a very few rehearsals, the newly-organized group chanted for the Sunday Church Services. Interestingly, he had everyone in the Choir, both male and female, sing from the Altar so he could direct them while still conducting the Liturgy. (However, he did construct a curtain around the Choir in order to remedy the restriction of females in the Altar.) Father Nassis would keep a tuning fork next to the Bible on the altar Table and give the appropriate pitch for every hymn. Most of the hymns that were sung at that time were written by Father Nassis. Most of his music consisted of only one vocal part for all to sing. (Many years later, under the leadership of the Choir's first director, George Baxewanis, hymns with harmony were sung in the Liturgy.)

Father Nassis also felt a necessity that the Choir have robes and books. Through his coaxing, the Church Council authorized the purchase of these needed commodities in 1932. For ten years, the Choir continued to grow and prosper under the careful tutelage of its founder. However, in 1938, Father Nassis left our Reading Community, and was replaced by Father Nicholas Spiliotis. The choir went dormant for a few months, having lost its leader and spiritual advisor. But, Father Spiliotis soon decided it was time to call together the youthful members of the Community, and attempt to reorganize the Choir. However, he felt that he could not do justice to the job of director, and asked that a director come from one of them. As if it were an act of God, the group unanimously chose George Baxewanis to lead them. Little did they realize that this was to become the beginning of a long "love affair" between Mr. Baxewanis and the Choir. There can be no doubt that he had become the dominant and influential figure of the Choir in the Reading Greek Community for years, and the leading spirit that kept the organization afloat during many difficult times.

On that same day that the group had selected its director, they also officially organized as the Hellenic Choral Society. They selected George Pappas (who later became a local dentist) as its first President.

With new-found enthusiasm, the Choir rehearsed often and began singing during the Sunday Services again, only this time from a specially-built choir loft at the Lemon and Chestnut Streets Church. That same year, 1938, the choir purchased its first organ, a footpedaled air organ for $100. The first organist was soon appointed, Niki Arnides (Kousoulides.) The choir was now well on its way and continued to flourish over the coming years. In addition to its religious contributions, the Choir held dances, picnics, fundraisers, and began the annual custom of Christmas caroling, door to door, at many Greek homes of Berks County.

By 1945, the Community realized the necessity of buying a new Church. The edifice at 8th and Court Streets was purchased, and the Choir soon began a movement to purchase a new organ. In 1946, enough money was raised by the Choir to acquire a Hammond organ at the cost of $3,000, which was specially hoisted to its permanent position in the Choir loft. Esther Chaknos (Moshos) was the first organist to play the Hammond organ. To compliment the new organ, fifty new books were purchased, donated by Mr. Mike Steven. They were the Greek-Byzantine Liturgical Hymnal by George Anastassiou, and the same edition is being used today in the current Greek Choir. Finally, the finishing touches were added when the Choir purchased new robes for every member. It is during these glorious years of the Hellenic Choral Society's history that the membership reached an all-time high of 102.

In 1954, the Choir celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary with Father George Hiotis as the parish priest. With the help of the Parish Council at the time, the Choir was honored at a special banquet, served by the Philoptochos Society.

Over the next few years, many of the first generation Choir members married, went on to school, moved to other cities, etc. and the tremendous numbers of the 1940s and 1950s began to decline. The faithfulness of those who remained had perpetuated the Choir through the years, as it sang Sunday after Sunday.

The sixties brought some changes. Father Peter Murtos introduced some new Byzantine music written by him for vesper services. By the end of the decade, the excitement of the prospect for a new Church also touched the Choir. Several projects and fundraisers were initiated so the Choir could do its part in the funding of our new and current edifice.

On February 7, 1970, the Choir most proudly participated in the first services at the new Church, 1001 East Wyomissing Blvd., Reading, PA. Not only were they sporting their new blue robes, but for the first time, the Choir was appearing in front of the congregation rather than singing from a rear balcony.

The concept of creating a new second Church Choir, using predominately English lyrics, began in the home of Father Tom Pappalas in the summer of 1998. He had invited any interested parishioners with some musical background and willingness to tackle brand new Choir music. These potential Choir members gathered around the piano and sampled three-part harmony music written by Dr. Nicholas E. Maragos. They pleasantly discovered how the new English translations, written by scholars of Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology and follow the Holy Cross Hymnal, integrated so well with its traditional Byzantine melodies.

A new music ministry evolved from this meeting. Many individuals with little or no Greek background realized the value of worshipping in the Greek Orthodox Church with full understanding. As a result, they accepted the challenge of learning this new music in time for the Church's Thanksgiving Eve Liturgy in November, 1998. This group became known as the "2nd" Choir, to distinguish the music of the original Greek or "1st" Choir, and was (and still is) directed by Ann Kraras, assisted by Crisanne Bansner, the organist.

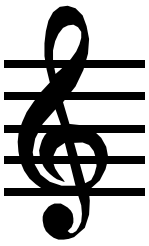
# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

Upon the retirement of George Baxewanis as director of the "1st"Choir in 2002, Father Tom Pappalas asked George's daughter, Ann Kraras, to lead both this Choir and the "2nd" Choir. With God's guidance, Ann has continued in her father's footsteps by directing both Choirs that sing on alternate Sundays.

Today, many Choir members have chosen to take on the challenge of singing in both Choirs. By keeping alive the traditional Greek hymnology and also singing the new English Byzantine music, our Choirs are offering a wonderful variety of hymns that please both the Greek-speaking parishioners as well as the many non-Greek-speaking members.

The Greek Orthodox Church Community of Reading has been so blessed to have had a group of individuals who contributed to the prosperity of the Choir and for so many glorious years! It is the prayer of all that the Choir's legacy continues for the next 100 years!

*(Portions of this written history are excerpts from the* Church 2001 Consecration Book *and the* 50th Helenic Choral Society Anniversary Book.*)*



## A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO OUR FIRST CHOIR DIRECTOR

**George J. Baxewanis**
**1916-2004**

On the occasion of our Church's 100th Anniversary, it is with heartfelt thanks that we pay tribute to George Baxewanis, our Church's first Choir Director. Because of his dedication and enthusiasm, he was able to gather hundreds of Church parishioners to sing in the choir through his 65-year tenure. Despite a minimal music educational background, he mastered the liturgical hymnology, and encouraged many with little music experience to be choir members. He served as Choir Director under nine different parish priests, each having different styles and requirements regarding hymns, and he also served at our three different Church sites.

Through the years, George received noted recognition for his unprecedented years of service as Choir Director. On February 20, 1940, the Former Bishop Germanos of Nyssis proclaimed him Ymnodos (singer of hymns) at a special ceremony in our Church on behalf of the Archdiocese; in 1951, he received the same proclamation by this Bishop who was serving as Acting Archbishop; in 1972, he was honored for his many years of untiring service with a special plaque presented by Bishop Philotheos; George was saluted for his long service as Choir Director at the national Clergy-Laity Congress of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in Orlando, Florida in 1998; he received a personal proclamation by Archbishop Spyridon during a reception sponsored by the National Forum of Greek Orthodox Church Musicians; and, finally, he was honored in our local parish upon his retirement as Choir Director in 2002 with a wonderful banquet.

Complimenting his music ministry, and teaming with him to gather fellow choir members in fun and fellowship was his wife of 64 years, Mary (Chaknos.) As part of George's choir retirement, attendees of his retirement celebration dinner donated money towards the new carillon bell system that was installed in our Church in honor of both George and his lovely wife, Mary. Today, these bells are set to play hymns on the hour each day for all to enjoy.

George and Mary's older daughter, Joyce, wife of Stam M. Zervanos, has carried on the family tradition by singing in the choir and also playing the organ for more than 50 years. Their younger daughter, Ann, wife of Christ G. Kraras, followed in her sister's footsteps as organist, then served as a Junior Choir director, and currently directs our two choirs.

George's contribution and dedicated service as Choir Director is quite historical and commendable! It truly was a blessing that God chose George to be His servant and a guiding light to so many Church parishioners.

May God rest his soul in peace, as well as his wife, Mary.

# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

## PAST AND PRESENT CHOIR MEMBERS

Agnello, Georgia (Kopteras)
Aloupis, Georgia
Anderson, Gregory
Anderson, Dorice
Anthony, George
Anthony, Helen
Apsokardu, Irene (Tambourlis)
Apsokardu, Lesvia
Apsokardu, Blake
Aronis, Helen
Assemes, Connie
Assemes, Georgine
Avgoulas, Antonis
Bankes, Helen (George)
Bansner, Crisanne (Carley)
Baxewanis, Angelica
Baxewanis, George
Baxewanis, James
Baxewanis, Joanne
Baxewanis, John
Baxewanis, Marina
Baxewanis, Mary
Baxewanis, William
Beidler, Lisa
Bellman, Iris (Architas)
Berstler, Paula
Bona, Dee
Bradiotis, George
Buck, Aspacia (Pappas)
Cammarano, Angel (Kraras)
Carley, Anna
Chaknos, Karen
Cheri, Marian
Choumbakos, Socrates
Chupak, Daniel
Clark, Anna (Agnello)
Clark, Sandra (Marmarou)
Clark, Stephanie
Conzaman, Mike
Craciun, Jessica
Craciun, Michelle
Dalaveris, Louis
Damore, Jimmy
Damore, Maria
Damore, Olivia
Daniels, Michael
Dantas, Ann
Dantas, Demetri
Davlantes, Irene (Fournaris)
DeMarco, Phyllis
Denne, Despina (Ioannidi)
Desantis, Cleo (Skias)
Devlantis, Irene
Dialectos, Christine
Dialectos, Jocelyn
Dialectos, Karissa
Dialectos, Mark
Dialectos, Mary (Zervanos)
Dialectos, Thenson
Diamentoni, Bessie (Grammaticas)
Dimas, Diamond
Dimitriou, Kathy
Donahue, Stavanna
Doukas, Effie
Douras, Anthony
Drosas, Elaine
Efstradiadis, Peter
Efstration, Pat
Eleftherion, Michael
Elliot, Kathy (Orphanos)
English, Aleka
English, Kalliope
English, Eugenia
English, Helen
Epler, Denise (Baxewanis)
Ermentrout, Elaine (Exas)
Essis, Terry (Baxewanis)
Evangeline, Pappas
Exas, Caroline (Tambourlis)
Exas, Marouli
Exas, Stella
Exas, George
Firilas, Koula
Firilas, Tony
Flamporis, Fofo
Flamporis, Mary (Petrakis)
Flamporis, Stavros
Fotiou, Helen (English)
Fournaris, Helen
Fournaris, Ross
Frangeadis, Sebastian
Frangiadis, Steven
Frank, Fran (Orphanos)
Futrick, Barbara (Koumaras)
Gallas, James
Gallas, George
Gallas, Joanne
Gallas, Pauline
Ganikon, Mary
Ganikon, Olympia
Garrett, Michelle (Pappas)
Gasparis, Milton
Gasparis, Virginia
Gatzaros, Vasilios
George, Theodora
George, Frances
George, Mary
George, Tina
George, Madeline
Georgeadis, Christine (Fournaris)
Georgeadis, James
Georgeadis, Socrates
Georgeadis, Steve
Geras, Ann (Kontis)
Geras, Laura
Giannaris, Joanne
Giannaris, Kathy
Giorgi, Elaine (Kordopatis)
Giovanis, Joan
Goodhart, Lula (Carnolis)
Graham, Joanne
Green, Despina (Choumbakos)
Hac, Borys
Havas, Marie (English)
Heckman, Pauline
Heckman, Vincent
Heckman, Kevin
Heckman, Athena
Hiotis, Christ
Illiadis, Angie
Illiadis, Kalliope
Ioannides, Kathy
Ioannnidi, Fran
James, Betty (George)
Kalllis, Lisa
Karahalias, Elpida
Karahalias, Stratton
Karahalias, Thekla
Karamanos, Cassandra (Pettis)
Karetas, Alice
Karetas, Harry
Karetas, Julia
Karetas, Mary
Karetas, Phyllis
Karetas, Sandra
Karetas, Shannon
Karetas, Julia
Karetas, Irene
Karetas, George
Karithikas, Maria
Katsigiannis, Katherine
Katzos, Evangeline
Kauffman, Olympia (Lambros)
Kontis, Harriet
Kordopatis, Nick
Kotsakis, Maro
Kotsakis, Gus
Koukoulis, Esther
Koumaras, Anna
Koumaras, George M.
Koumaras, George S.
Koumaras, Stratton
Koursaros, Mary
Kousoulides, Niki (Arnidis)
Koutalelis, Evriklia “Eva” (Marmarou)
Koutroulelis, George
Koutroulelis, John
Koutroulelis, Leah
Kouvaras, Maria
Kovras, Esther (Marmarou)
Krallis, Marika
Krallis, George
Krallis, Nick
Kramer, Mollie (Rentos)
Kraras, Ann (Baxewanis)
Kraras, Christ G.
Kraras, Christ E.
Kratsas, Jennie
Krohn, Karl
Krohn, Angelique
Laletas, Helen (James)
Laliberte, Angela (Apsokardu)
Lambros, Debra (Fournaris)
Lambros, Steve
Lambros, Steven
Lambros, Jimmy
Lamprinos, Alcmene (Serametis)
Lampros, Chrissy
Lasky, Joseph
Lasky, Lillian
Laspopoulos, Mary
Laspopoulos, Tony
Laspopoulos, Peter
Lebaris, Beatrice
Lebaris, Sophie
Limberis, Anastasia
Limberis, Sophia
Lioperos, Gus
Loose, Irene
Lountzis, John
Macaronis, Michael
Macaronis, Peter

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR CHURCH CHOIR

## PAST AND PRESENT CHOIR MEMBERS

Magdalinas, Anna
Maliades, Kally
Mandolas, Athens
Mandolas, Tillie
Mara, Elaine
Marmarou, Irene (English)
Marmarou, Carnation (Halkias)
Marmarou, Constantina (Paraskis)
Mavrides, Rusty
McGowan, Evangeline
McLean, Margo (Fournaris)
Medouhas, Helen
Melonas, Sherry
Menas, Maria
Mertz, Dorothy (Apsokardu)
Miller, Leon
Miranda, Angeliki
Monas, Angeline (Zeppos)
Morris, Amelia
Morris, Evangeline
Morris, Martha
Morris, Peter
Morris, John
Mowbray, Stella (Zdunowski)
Nassis, Homer
Nicholas, Helen
Odages, Sophia
Pannos, Athena
Panousis, Louise
Papadopoulos, George
Pappalas, Anne
Pappas, Catherine
Pappas, Evangeline
Pappas, Fern
Pappas, George
Pappas, Mary
Pappas, Thomas
Pappas, Voula
Pappas, Zaharoula
Pappas, Elaine
Pappas, Niki
Pappas, Evan
Pappas, Danielle
Pappavasilion, Vasso (Pappas)
Pavlatos, Cathy (Baxewanis)
Pestilikis, Irene
Petrakis, Cindy (Kousoulides)
Petrakis, Frank
Petrakis, Frankie
Petrakis, Victoria
Petris, Lyvia
Pettis, Christ
Pettis, Helen
Pettis, Mary (Carnolis)
Phyrillas, Tony
Plastiras, Georgia
Platanos, Despina (Gasparis)
Platanos, Felicia
Pliskos, Eleni
Pliskos, Lela
Pliskos, Reggie
Porcaro, Elaine
Psaros, Helen (Arnidis)
Rellis, Portia
Rellis, Niki
Rohm, Kathy (Sianis)
Romeo, Beulah
Roth, Terrance
Ruchlewicz, Joanne
Ruser, Linda (Tripolitis)
Salakos, Therna (Patsourakos)
Schlappich, Georgine
Schlappich, Chrissy
Seibert, Susan
Seifert, Julia (Dracoules)
Sevast, Sappho (Carnation)
Sianis, Mary
Sianis, Stella (Harris)
Simotas, Aspasia
Skoufalos, Mary (Xavios)
Smith, Marian
Sophianos, Bessie
Sotolongo, Marisa
Stamus, Louise
Stanson, Gregory
Stanson, Peter
Stepfens, Triada
Stephenson, Margaret (Laletas)
Sterganos, Melissa
Sterious, Marilena (Kotsakis)
Stevens-Kamilar, Cleo
Theodore, Ann
Theofiles, Pendora (English)
Thomas, John
Thomas, Pauline
Thomas, Peter W.
Thomas, William
Tilley, Vasso (Papoutsis)
Tripolitis, John
Tripolitis, Karen
Tripolitis, Shirley
Tripolitis, Georgia
Tsakeris, James
Tsakeris, Stan
Ulrich, Nicole
Vastardes, Anthony
Vlassis, Florence
Wagner, Athena (Kontaxes)
Wesner, Margaret
Whitman, Dean
Whitman, Sharon (Bankes)
Xavios, Sophie
Xavios, Lisa
Yatron, Stratton
Yatron, Debbie
Yianoulis, Despina
Zaffary, Christ
Zaffary, Rose
Zaffary, Nicholas
Zaharis, Catherine
Zaharis, Harry
Zampelli, Pat (Lecatsas)
Zembekos, Mary
Zeppos, Constantine
Zeppos, Peter
Zervanos, Alex
Zervanos, Evan
Zervanos, Hariklia (Fournaris)
Zervanos, Joyce (Baxewanis)
Zervanos, Nikita
Zervanos, Sandra (Sianis)
Zervanos, Seva
Zervanos, Stamatis

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

**PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Maximos Maoury, Victoria Porcaro, Zachary Simotas, Joshua Ross, Emily Elliker, Clara Smith, Isabelle Cammarano, Alexander Sasaran, Christohper Zeppos, Zoe Simotas, Nico Simotas; ***SECOND ROW:*** Carly Futrick, Nick Lountzis, Ethan Ross, Maria Wagner, Stephen Elliker, Sophia Perezous, Luke Elliker, Alexander Grassley, Manny Hansen, Zoe Hansen, Stanley Maoury, Aleko Zeppos, Maria Zeppos, Delaney Kraras, Gram Hunsicker, Ella Zervanos, Felicia Caloiero, Courtney Futrick; ***THIRD ROW:*** Rosemarie Miller, Christine Dialectos, Dee Green, Marion Porcaro, Dante Porcaro, JoAnne Ruchlewicz, Jennifer Perezous, Mia Perezous, Tula Donahue (Director), Joseph Cammarano, Stavanna Donahue, Harry Dialectos, Deacon James Elliker (Past Director), Eleni Fernez, Father Thomas Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Christopher Kraras, Christo Hunsicker, AJ Tilley, Eleni Sterious, Argie Hansen, Connie Fecera, Maria Flamporis, Despina Yianoulis, Stephanie Ioannidi, Elizabeth Ioannidi, Shirley Tripolitis, Crina Sasaran, Mary Tripolitis, Des Denne, Barb Lambriodes, Kalliope English, Ann Kraras (Past Director), Mary Pettis (Past Director), Bella Kerr; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Steven Elliker, Amy Elliker, Roula Elliker, Marilene Sterious, Anne Thomas, Sharon Lountzis, Christina Yatron, Sandra Zervanos, Kathy Rohm, Jennifer Fernez, Peyton Kraras, Mackenzie Kraras, Zoe Thompson, Karissa Dialectos, Demetri Schlageter, Konstantina Schlagater, Amanda Tilley, Christopher Sasaran, Tommy Hunsicker; ***FIFTH ROW:*** Gino Caloiero, Margaret Phyrillas, Sofia Grassley, Rhea Antonellos, Vasso Tilley, Maria Phyrillas, Soula Phyrillas, Shelly Edwards, Heather Moliatu, Vasilis Phyrillas, Patrick Phyrillas, John Lountzis, James Phyrillas, Cindy Petrakis, Tina Daniels, Marisa Hunsicker, Tess Kotsakis, Anna Caloiero, Elaine Shunk, Mary Caloiero, Marie Kriebel, Vangie McGowan, Joanne Weidner, Michael Mavreles, Sharon Whitman, Shirl Yatron, Joyce Zervanos, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Debbie Reber, Demetra Chupak, Vlacia Campbell (Past Director), Maria Damore; ***SIXTH ROW:*** Evan Zervanos, Gust C. Kraras, Alexander Elliker, Chris Sterious, C.J. Sterious, Chris Wagner, Alex Lountzis, Alex Simotas, Andrew Lountzis, Sterg Dikos, Soci Phyrillas, Tony Phyrillas, George Yatron, Alexandros Matheos, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Christos Dikos, Michael P. Macaronis, Phillip Macaronis, Angel Cammarano, Dean Whitman, Dean Kraras, Chris G. Kraras, Frank Petrakis, Mark Dialectos, Daniel Chupak, Nick Karetas, Stam Zervanos, Karen Chaknos.

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

**2013-1014 SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Victoria Porcaro, Mia Perezous, Luke Elliker, Christopher Zeppos, Aleko Zeppos, Maria Zeppos, Clara Smith, Isabelle Cammarano, Delaney Kraras, Gram Hunsicker, Alexander Sasaran, Zoe Simotas; ***SECOND ROW:*** Dante Porcaro, Niko Simotas, Maria Wagner, Carly Futrick, Ethan Ross, Joshua Ross, Sophia Perezous, Courtney Futrick, Zoe Hansen; ***THIRD ROW:*** Peyton Kraras, Mackenzie Kraras, Felicia Caloiero, Nysia Sterious, Amanda Tilley, Nick Lountzis, Stephen Elliker, Christo Hunsicker, Christopher Kraras, Maximos Maoury, Jackson Wagner, Alex Grassley; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Joseph Cammarano, Stavanna Donahue, Vasilis Phyrillas, Emily Elliker, Deacon Jim Elliker, Zachary Simotas, Father Tom Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Konstantina Schlageter, Demetri Schlageter, Stanley Maoury, Christopher Sasaran, Tommy Hunsicker, Manny Hansen, AJ Tilley; ***FIFTH ROW:*** Gino Caloiero, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Soci Phyrillas, Chris Sterious, Sterg Dikos, Alexandros Mattheos, James Phyrillas, Andrew Lountzis, Eleni Sterious, Anna Caloiero, Patrick Phyrillas.

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

**PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Esther Anderson, Denise Porcaro, Rosemarie Miller, Despina Green, Marion Porcaro, Christine Dialectos, Jennifer Fernez, Christina Yatron, Deacon Jim Elliker (Past Director), Father Tom Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Mary Flamporis, Mary Tripolitis, Shirley Tripolitis, Connie Fecera, Barbara Lambriodes, Kalliope English, Mary Pettis (Past Director), Ann Kraras (Past Director), Gust C. Kraras; ***SECOND ROW:*** Steve Elliker, Roula Elliker, Soula Phyrillas, Amy Elliker, Sharon Lountzis, Sandy Zervanos, JoAnn Ruchlewicz, Jen Perezous, Shelly Edwards, Tula Donahue (Current Director), Heather Moliatu, Christ Dikos, Cindy Petrakis, Joanne Weidner, Angel Cammarano, Tess Kotsakis, Vangie McGowan, Crina Sasaran, Argie Perzous, Bella Kerr; ***THIRD ROW:*** Marilene Sterious, Anne Thomas, Rhea Antonellos, Sofia Grassley, Margaret Phyrillas, Vasso Tilley, Olivia Szczawinski, Kathy Rohm, Fran Thompson, Tony Phyrillas, Phillip Macaronis, Tina Daniels, Despina Yianoulis, Marisa Hunsicker, Karen Chaknos, Mary Caloiero, Elaine Shunk, Vlacia Campbell (Past Director), Demetra Chupak; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Chris Wagner, CJ Sterious, Alex Simotas, Michael Macaronis, Dean Whitman, Dan Chupak, Christ G. Kraras (Past Director), Shirleen Yatron, Sharon Whitman, Presbytera Anne Pappalas.

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

**2013-1014 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Soula Phyrillas, Vassou Tilley, Christina Yatron, Deacon Jim Elliker, Father Thomas Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Argie Hansen, Bella Kerr; ***SECOND ROW:*** Marion Porcaro, JoAnne Ruchlewicz, Jen Perezous, Heather Moliatu, Connie Fecera, Crina Sasaron; ***THIRD ROW:*** Amy Elliker, Elizabeth Wadsworth, Kathy Rohm, Shelly Edwards, Chris DIkos, Tula Donahue – Director, Tess Kotsakis, Mary Caloiero, Despina Yianoulis; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Chris Wagner, Sofia Grassley, Fran Thompson, CJ Sterious, Tony Phyrillas, Alex Simotas, Michael Macaronis, Tina Daniels, Marisa Hunsicker, Shirleen Yatron.

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

***FRONT ROW:*** Niko Simotas, Christopher Kraras, Christo Hunsicker, Aleko Zeppos, Zachary Simotas, Christopher Zeppos, Joshua Ross, Ethan Ross, Maria Wagner, Zoe Simotas; ***SECOND ROW:*** Carly Futrick, Christopher Sasaran, Tommy Hunsicker, Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, Alexa Moliatu, Courtney Futrick, Felicia Caloiero, Ella Zervanos; ***THIRD ROW:*** Gram Hunsicker, Peyton Kraras, Mackenzie Kraras, Delaney Kraras, Stavanna Donahue, Angeliki Miranda, JoAnna Helm, Patrick Phyrillas, James Phyrillas, Anna Zdravecki, Gino Caloiero; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Chrisovalanti Siozos, Michelle Craciun, Jessica Craciun, Alexandros Matthews, Tula Donahue, Director of Sunday School, Stephen Lambriodes.

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## THE HISTORY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN OUR CHURCH

On this, the Centennial Celebration of our Greek Orthodox Community in Reading, Pennsylvania, it is interesting to reflect back on the evolution of what we have today that we call Sunday School.

For many of the early years, the basic religious education for all our Parish youth was accomplished at home by mothers and fathers. They transmitted to their children their love for the Lord and His Church and mostly from what they remembered when they were growing up. Religious education in Greece was actually part of the regular public school curriculum but, of course, that was not the case here in the United States.

Even in those early years, however, a Greek School was formed and most of our children would attend this School. But, a strong focus even from the beginning, was on our Orthodox religion. Mary Pettis related to me many years ago that in the late 1930s and 1940s, the children would meet at the old Greek School on Walnut Street for their regular lessons, and then would walk to the Lemon and Chestnut Street Church for the Divine Liturgy.

It wasn't until 1944 when Stephanos Petrakis organized our first regular and official Sunday School. There are photographs in our Church archives that show over 65 Sunday School students in those early years.

In 1946, our Church Community moved from Lemon and Chestnut Streets to a larger Church at 8th and Court Streets. Many will remember that the first floor of the Church building had a sizable open hall with a stage, kitchen and an office. In the Social Hall there were several posts, which were the main supports for the second floor where the Church Services were held. It was decided that that was where the Sunday School would be placed, and to create privacy, wires were strung between the posts and curtains were hung to create a room atmosphere for the use of the Sunday School.

In 1957, the building next to the Church at 8th and Court was purchased and was totally renovated to create real private rooms for our Sunday School. This was effective for many years.

In the early 1970s, we moved to our present Church and, as we all know, the first floor included several rooms that were used primarily for our Sunday School. But over the years, the Sunday School grew and we needed more space. In the early 2000s, the decision was made for a major expansion of our facilities and we constructed a new and larger Social Hall and added several more Sunday School Rooms. This action allowed us to finally have the sufficient number of rooms necessary for the proper operation of the Sunday School.

The early faculty of our Sunday School in our Sts. Constantine & Helen Church consisted of devoted parishioners, mostly women, who would offer practical lessons to our children. Today's faculty has evolved into a very capable and professional group, many of whom are college graduates and many of whom who have professional teacher training. In addition, for many years, there was an Adult Sunday School class, which met every Sunday in the Church Library and offered instruction to many members of the Parish who wanted to learn more about their Orthodox Faith.

Today, on the first Sunday of each month, all the Sunday School students remain in the Church for the Divine Liturgy and for the Sermon to follow. On that Sunday, Father Tom personally instructs the Sunday School Students on the different aspects of the Church and our Orthodox Faith. The present enrollment of almost 150 students is the highest ever recorded in our Church history. So, too, is the number of current Sunday School Teaching Staff who offer their time and talents to educating the young people of our Church Community.

*By Gust C. Kraras*

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Aloupis, Presbytera
Anderson, Esther (Papoutsis)
Anthony, Helen
Antonellos, Kristina (Petris)
Antonellos, Rhea (Hatzistavrakis)
Baxewanis, Angelica (Grammaticas)
Bona, Dee
Breen, Stephanie (Zaharis)
Breit, Linda
Caloiero, Marianthi (Panos)
Cammarano, Angel (Kraras)
Campbell, Alexis
Campbell, Vlacia (Zaharis)
Canales, Mercena (Stefanowicz)
Capiotis, Sharon
Carley, Ann
Chaknos, Gus
Chaknos, Karen
Cheri, Marian
Chupak, Daniel
Chupak, Demetra (Zaharis)
Daniels, Tina
Davlantes, Irene (Fournaris)
Denne, Despina (Ioannidi)
Dialectos, Christine
Dialectos, Mary (Zervanos)
Diamantoni, Bessie (Grammaticas)
Dikos, Chris
Donahue, Tula (Kraras)
Doukas, Effie L.
Doukas, Mary L.
Edwards, Shelly
Elliker, Amy
Elliker, Deacon James
Elliker, Roula
Elliker, Stephen
English, Kalliope
Epler, Denise (Baxewanis)
Exas, Stella
Fecera, Connie
Fernez, Jennifer (Pappalas)
Flamporis, Maria (Petrakis)
Futrick, Alan
Futrick, Barbara (Koumaras)
Futrick, Staci (Clay-Lambros)
Gallas, Fr. George
Gallas, Polly (Zeppos)
Giannaris, Pres. Mary
Giovanis, Joan
Grassley, Sophia (Kompotiatis)
Grassley, Terry
Green, Despina (Choumbakos)
Hain, Stephanie
Halkis, Fr. Nick
Hansen, Argie (Perezous)
Heckman, Athena
Helm, Angel (Dialectos)
Hunsicker, Marisa (Kraras)
Kaufman, Olympia (Lambros)
Kerr, Bella (Moutafis)
Kopola, Ariadne (Marmarou)
Kotsakis, Aspasia (Panos)
Koumaras, Anthony
Koumaras, Helen (Mavredes)
Koumaras, Stav
Koutroulelis, Stanley
Kouvaros, Aris
Kraras, Ann (Baxewanis)
Kraras, Christ G.
Kraras, Gust
Kunkelman, Kathy (Kontaxes)
Kyvelos, Anthony
Labe, Stephanie (Cammarano)
Lambriodes, Barbara
Lambros, Dean
Lamprinos, Alcemene (Seremetis)
Lawrence, Stasia
Lebaris, Tessie
Lecatsas, Joyce (Tripolitis)
Lountzis, Kelly
Lountzis, Sharon
Macaronis, Michael P.
Maoury, Andrew
Marmarou, Constantina
Marmarou, Stephanie
McClean, Margo (Fournaris)
McGowan, Evangeline
Midouhas, Helen
Miller, Rosemarie
Monos, Ann (Zeppos)
Morris, Amelia (Paris)
Morris, Evangeline
Moshos, Esther (Chaknos)
Mowbray, Jennifer
Mowbray, Stella Z. (Zdunowski)
Noll, Anastasia (Orphanos)
Orphanos, Pat
Pace, James, Dr.
Papacosma, Ellie
Pappalas, Pres. Anne
Perezous, Jen
Petrakis, Cynthia (Kousoulidis)
Petrakis, Stephen F.
Petris, Lyvia (Georgeadis)
Pettis, David
Pettis, Mary (Carnoles)
Phyrillas, Anthony
Phyrillas, Margaret
Phyrillas, Soula
Pollet, Marissa (Stephenson)
Polyak, Fani (Sotos)
Porcaro, Denise
Porcaro, Marion (Dalavaris)
Profit, Jen (Rogers)
Radwanski, Vicky
Ream, Joanne (Katsigiannis)
Richart, Cindy (Kontaxes)
Rohm, John
Rohm, Kathy (Sianis)
Ruchlewicz, Joanne (Lasky)
Salakos, Therna (Patsourakos)
Sheetz, Theana (Koutroulelis)
Shunk, Elaine (McGowan)
Sianis, Kim
Simotas, Alex
Stephenson, Margaret (Laletas)
Sterious, CJ
Szczawinski, Olivia (Ioannidi)
Thomas, Anne
Thomas, Pauline
Thompson, Fran (Sianis)
Tripolitis, Mary
Tripolitis, Shirley
Tsakeris, James
Tsakeris, Vlacia
Vlassis, Florence (Mavrides)
Wadsworth, Elizabeth (Rohm)
Wagner, Chris
Wagner, Stefanie
Weeber, Christy (Chaknos)
Whitman, Dean
Whitman, Sharon (Bankes)
Yatron, Christina
Yatron, Deborah
Yatron, Sarah
Yatron, Shirleen
Yianoulis, Despina
Zervanos, Catherine (Fecera)
Zervanos, Hariklia (Fournaris)
Zervanos, Sandra (Sianis)
Zurawski, Alyssa (Stevens)

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Agrian, Demetria
Agrian, Kallista
Agrian, Lukas
Alexander,Tina
Amegangee, Fotis
Anderson Greg
Angstadt, Amanda
Anthony, Ruth (Hatza)
Antonellas, Theodore
Antonnellos, Kristina (Petris)
Antonnellos, Rhea (Hatzistavrakis)
Apostalakis, Joanne
Apostolakos, Peter
Apsokardou, George
Apsokardou, Lesvia
Apsokardu, Blake
Apsokardu, Michael
Apsokardu, Theodora
Apsokardu, William
Arnidis, Foty
Arnidis, James
Artines, Kristen (Zdunowski)
Asimakopoulos, George
Asimakopoulos, Peter
Assemes, Connie
Assemes, Georgine
Avanzato, Sabrina
Bankes, Helen (George)
Bankes, William
Bansner, Chrisanne (Carley)
Barakos, Vasiliki
Barakos, Xeni
Barakos, Yianni
Baxewanis, Joanne
Baxewanis, John
Baxewanis, Olivia
Becker, Nikki
Beidler, Michael
Beighley, Alexia
Beighley, Claudia
Bellman, Nick
Billys, Michael
Bona, Alexander
Bona, Evangelia
Bona, Marilena
Brandt, Adam
Brandt, Michael
Bratiotis, Fr. George
Breit, Julia
Breit, Peter
Breneman, Athena (Sterganos)
Brickner, Danny
Brickner, Elena
Burkman, Anna (Frangakis)
Caloiero, Anna
Caloiero, Felicia
Caloiero, Gino
Caloiero, Marianthi (Panos)
Cammarano, Andrew
Cammarano, Angel (Kraras)
Cammarano, Isabelle
Cammarano, Joseph
Campbell, Alexis
Campbell, Andrew
Canales, Mercena (Stefanowicz)
Care, Maria (Dialectos)
Carrasquillo, John
Chaknos, Mark
Chaknos, Michael
Chaknos, Michael
Chaknos, William
Cheri, Marian
Chisca, Michelle
Chondris, Maria (Gasparis)
Choumbakas, Socrates
Chupak, Christian
Chupak, Joshua
Conrad, Christine (Lountzis)
Constan, Pauline (Thomas)
Conzaman, Alexander
Conzaman, Dean
Conzaman, Nichole
Conzaman, Zachary
Copeland, Steve
Cosma, Maria
Craciun, Andrea
Craciun, Jessica
Craciun, Michelle
Crassas, James
Crassas, Maria (Elliker)
Dachowski, Alaina (Futrick)
Daglis, Peter
Dalaveris, Dr. Louis
Damore, James
Damore, Maria (Flamporis)
Damore, Olivia
Daniels, Cathy
Daniels, Lee
Daniels, Tina
Dantos, Demetri
Dastra, James
Davlantes, Irene (Fournaris)
Deligiannis, Eleni
Deligiannis, Georgine
Delong, Alex
Delp, Laura (Dalaveris)
Denne, Despina (Ioannidi)
Dialectos, Adam
Dialectos, Athan
Dialectos, Harry
Dialectos, Jocelyn
Dialectos, Jordan
Dialectos, Karissa
Dialectos, Mark
Dialectos, Mary (Zervanos)
Dialectos, Rachel
Dialectos, Thenson
Dietrich, Timothy Jr.
Dikos, Alexandra
Dikos, Antonia
Dikos, Chris
Dikos, Stergios
Dilworth, Virginia (Carnoles)
Dimitriou, Emmanuel
Dimitriou, Harry
Dimitriou, Steve
Donahue, Bern
Donahue, Stavanna
Donahue, Tula (Kraras)
Doukas, Ilias
Doukas, Oiabella
Dowiak, Elizabeth (Wagner)
Drosas, Elaine
Dumitrescu, Gabriel
Edwards, Jack
Edwards, Jessica
Efstration, Fotini
Elliker, Christine
Elliker, Elyse
Elliker, Emily
Elliker, Luke
Elliker, Stephen
Elliker, Steven
Elliot, Kathy (Orphanos)
English, Jim
Epler, Denise (Baxewanis)
Ermentrout, Elaine (Exas)
Essis, Terry Valudes (Baxewanis)
Exas, Adam
Exas, Christopher
Exas, Dean
Exas, John
Exas, Kallie
Exas, Stella
Fanaras, Stanley
Farcas, Robert
Faust, Constantina
Faust, Maria (Limberiou)
Faust, Michael
Fernez, Eleni
Fernez, Jennifer (Pappalas)
Firilas, Anthony
Fisher, Greg
Fisher, Nick
Flamporis, Christina
Flamporis, Juliana
Flamporis, Mary (Petrakis)
Flamporis, Melissa
Flamporis, Stamatios
Flamporis, Stavros
Frangakis, Isidoros
Frangakis, Jaegar
Frangakis, Marcus
Frangakis, Nicholas
Frangiades, Sevastos
Franks, Frannie (Orphanos)
Frey, Nikole
Futrick, Alan
Futrick, Alan Jr.
Futrick, Alyssa
Futrick, Anthony
Futrick, Ava
Futrick, Barbara (Koumaras)
Futrick, Carly
Futrick, Courtney
Futrick, Jackson
Futrick, Michael
Futrick, Staci (Clay-Lambros)
Gallas, Athena
Gallas, Denise
Ganas, Chris, Dr.
Ganas, George L.
Ganas, Katherine (Thomas)
Ganas-Miranda, Esther
Ganikon, Greg
Ganikon, Mary
Ganikon, Olympia
Garcia, Stefanie (Franks)
Gasparis, Dr. Milton
George, Betty
George, Frances
George, Jim
George, John
George, Theodore
George, Tina
George, Madeline
George, Teddy
Georgeadis, Soc
Georgeadis, Steve
Geras, Ann (Contis)
Giannaris, Joanne
Giannaris, Kathy
Giorgi, Elaine (Kordopatis)
Giovanis, Christopher G.
Giovanis, John G.
Goncea, Jessica
Goodhart, Lula (Carnoles)
Grassley, Alexander
Green, Despina (Choumbakos)
Hain, Nicole
Hain, Tyler
Haines, Emelia
Haines, Sarah
Halkias, Shannon

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Halkias, Vasilios
Halulakos, Natasha
Halulakos, Nicole
Hansen Emmanuel
Hansen, Argie (Perezous)
Hansen, Zoe
Harbst, Nicholas
Harbst, Sarah
Hargrave, Evan
Harris, Renie
Harris, Sophia
Heckman, Athena
Heckman, Kevin
Heckman, Vincent
Helm, Angel (Dialectos)
Helm, Austin
Helm, Grayson
Helm, JoAnna
Hessen, Angie (Iliadis)
Hinkle, Alexa
Holden, Marilyn (Yatron)
Hunsicker Tommy
Hunsicker, Christo
Hunsicker, Gram
Hunsicker, Marisa (Kraras)
Iliadis, Evaggelia
Iliadis, Kalliope
Ioannidi Christos
Ioannidi, Elizabeth
Ioannidi, John
Ioannidi, Stephanie
Ioannidis, Angie
Ioannidis, Panagiotis
Ioannidis, Stacy
Johan, Jaden
Kageos, Cole
Kallis, Nicholaos
Kallis, Panagiotis
Kallis, Vasilios
Kambakis, Evangeline
Kanakis, Alex
Kanakis, Demetra
Karabelas, Mary
Karahalias, Dennis
Karamanos, Cassandra (Pettis)
Karetas, Aidan
Karetas, Andrew J.
Karetas, Caitlin
Karetas, Emily
Karetas, George
Karetas, Kaeleigh
Karetas, Mary (George)
Karetas, Nicholas D.
Karetas, Nick S.
Karomfily, Kali (Iliadis)
Karros, Markos
Karros, Nikoletta
Karros, Paraskevi
Karros, Savinna
Katsigiannas, Sophia
Katsigiannis, Nick
Kaufman, Olympia (Lambros)
Kerr, Bella (Moutafis)
Kerr, Hannah
Kerr, Morgan
Kiritsis, Alexia
Kiritsis, Elias
Kiritsis, Nikolas
Kissinger, Alexandra
Kissinger, Elaine (Lountzis)
Kitixis, Alexander
Kitixis, Morgan
Klein, Dee Dee (Kyrmas)
Klett, Alexandria
Kokonos, Courtney
Kokonos, Jeremy
Kokonos, Lance
Kolevas, Jacob
Kollintzas, Constantine
Kollintzas, Felicia
Kontis,Harriet
Kopala, Gabrielle
Kopola, Ariadne (Marmarou)
Kordopatis, Nick
Kostomeris, Metaxia
Kostomiris, Demetrios
Kostomiris, Michael
Kostomiris, Nicholas
Kotsakis, Aspasia (Panos)
Kotsakis, Constantine
Kotsakis, Dionisios
Kotsakis, Vasilios
Koumaras, Anna (Dialectos)
Koumaras, Anthony
Koumaras, Dr. George M.
Koumaras, Gaberiel
Koumaras, George S.
Koumaras, Joshua
Koumaras, Stav
Koumaras, Colby
Koursaros, Diomedi
Kousoulides, Niki Ardinis
Koutalelis, Evriklia (Marmarou)
Koutroulelis, Leah
Koutroulelis, Stelios
Kouvaros, Aris
Kouvaros, Maria (Menas)
Kovras, Esther (Marmarou)
Krallis, Anthony
Krallis, George
Krallis, Nicholas
Kranis, Nick
Kranis, Tom
Kraras, Ann (Baxewanis)
Kraras, Christ G.
Kraras, Christ J.
Kraras, Christopher
Kraras, Dean
Kraras, Delaney
Kraras, Mackenzie
Kraras, Peyton
Kreibel, Maria (Shunk)
Krohn, Angelique
Krohn, Katerina
Kubacki, Nicholas
Kubacki, Stanley
Kunkelman, Kathy (Kontaxes)
Kunkleman, Matthew
Kunkleman, Melissa
Kyvelos, Daniel
Kyvelos, John (JT)
Kyvelos, Lily
Labe, Stephanie (Cammarano)
Lahaniatis, Balasios
Lahaniatis, Dr. John
Lambriodes, George
Lambriodes, Stephen
Lambros, Dean
Lambros, Debra (Fournaris)
Lambros, Evan
Lambros, James
Lambros, Nicholas
Lampros, Chrissy
Lampros, Jonathon
Lane, Griffin
Lane, Noah
Lawrence, Cassandra
Lawrence, Christopher
Lecatsas, Chris A.
Lecatsas, Joyce (Tripolitis)
Lecatsas, Nicholas
Lecatsas, Nicole
Lecatsas, Spero
Lecatsas, Spiro S.
Lecatsas, Spiros
Lecatsas, Stavros
Lecatsas, Stephanie
Leshner, Melanie
Limberiou, Angelo
Limberiou, Evan
Limberiou, George
Limberiou, Mia
Limberiou, Nick
Limberiou, Peter
Limberiou, Teddy
Limberiou, Zoe
Loose, David C.
Lountzis, Alexander
Lountzis, Andrew
Lountzis, Apostolos
Lountzis, John
Lountzis, Lauren
Lountzis, Mary
Lountzis, Nicholas
Lountzis, Ryan
Lountzis, Tyler
Lountzis, Zachary
Lynch, Allyson
Lynch, Ayden
Macaronis, James
Macaronis, Michael N.
Macaronis, Michael P.
Macaronis, Peter
Macaronis, Phil
MacKinnon, Melanie
Malones, Marsha
Manga, Juwan
Manga, Katrina
Manning, Aphrodite (Thomas)
Manuel, Elaine
Manuel, Maria
Maoury, Maximos
Maoury, Stanley
Marcandonis, Irene (Theodossiou)
Marcantonis, Haralambos
Marmarou, Anthony V.
Marmarou, Connie (Paraskis)
Marmarou, Euterpe
Marmarou, Evelyn
Marmarou, John
Marmarou, Peter D.
Marmarou, Rallia
Marmarou, Steve
Marmarou, Stratton P.
Marmarou, Bill
Martin, Ariana
Martz, Athena
Martz, Connor
Martz, Skyla
Mather, Irene (Tzinis)
Mattheos, Alexandros
Mavreles, Michael
Mavreles, Nicholas
Mavreles, Stephan
McClean, Margo (Fournaris)
McGowan, Evangeline (Katzos)
Medaglia, Vanessa
Midouhas, Alexander
Midouhas, Amara
Miller, Christopher
Miller, Matthew
Miller, Michael P.
Miller, Neve
Miranda, Angeliki

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Mitchell, Kyran
Mitchell, Stephan
Mitchell, Stephanie (Copeland)
Moliatu, Alexia
Monos, Alexia
Monos, Olivia
Morris, Amelia (Paris)
Moutafis, George
Mowbray, Kara
Mowbray, Matthew
Mowbray, Stella Z. (Zdunowski)
Moyer, Kathy (Thomas)
Moyer, Mathew W.
Moyer, Thomas M.
Murley, Jeremy
Murti, Ravi
Nicholas, Alexandra
Nicholas, Benjamin
Nicholas, Dr. James D.
Nicholas, Dr. Peter D.
Niculoiu, James
Niculoiu, Jason
Ninfo, Augie
Noll, Anastasia (Orphanos)
Noll, John
Noll, Katelyn
Orphanos, Ernie
Orphanos, Nicholas J.
Orphanos, Nicholas P.
Ott, Elaine (Nicholas)
Pace, Nicholas
Pace, Warren
Panos, Euripides (Bill)
Panousis, Louise (Fotiou)
Papadakis, Alexander
Papadakis, Arianna
Papadakis, Cecilia
Papadakis, Coralie
Papademetriou, Alexander Spyros
Papademetriou, Cassandra
Papademetriou, Metaxia
Papademetriou, Stanley
Papoutsis, Alexandra
Papoutsis, Brianna
Pappalas, Peter
Pappalas, Renee
Pappas, Catherine
Pappas, Evan
Pappas, Fern
Pappas, Jessica
Pappas, Joshua
Pappas, Owen
Pappas, Vasso
Pappas, Voula
Paskos, Chrissy
Patestas Yanni
Patestas, Matthew
Patestas, Peter
Patton, Nick
Patton, Mary (Firilas)
Patton, Spiro
Pauley, Efstratia
Pauley, Georgia (Marmarou)
Pauley, Maria
Pavlatos, Cathy (Baxewanis)
Pelvirakis, Kathy (Petris)
Pendos, Anastasia
Pendos-Toma, Gabriela
Pendos-Toma, Michael
Peraskis, Connie
Perezous, John
Perezous, Maria
Perezous, Sophia
Perezous, Theodore
Petestas, Pete
Petrakis, Cynthia (Kousoulidis)
Petrakis, Frank T.
Petrakis, Frankie
Petrakis, Michael
Petrakis, Nysia
Petrakis, Samantha
Petrakis, Stephen
Petrakis, Ty
Petris, Lyvia (Georgeadis)
Pettis, Christ
Pettis, David
Pflederer, Vai (Siklas)
Philipides, Nicholas
Philippides, Andrea
Phyrillas, Anastasis
Phyrillas, Anthony
Phyrillas, James
Phyrillas, Louis
Phyrillas, Maria
Phyrillas, Patrick
Phyrillas, Spiro
Phyrillas, Vasilis
Platanos, Christopher
Platanos, Despina (Gasparis)
Platanos, Felicia
Platanos, Stathi
Pollet, Marissa (Stephenson)
Polyak, Alexia
Polyak, Evan
Polyak, Fani (Sotos)
Porcaro, Alexa
Porcaro, Chris
Porcaro, Christopher
Porcaro, Dante
Porcaro, Dean
Porcaro, Elaine
Porcaro, Marion (Dalaveris)
Porcaro, Nicholas
Porcaro, Nicholas
Porcaro, Victoria
Pownall, Kelly
Pownall, Nikki (Pappas)
Profit, Jen (Rogers)
Profit, Timothy (TJ)
Radwanski, Jonathan
Radwanski, Nathan
Ream, Harrison
Reber, Debbie
Rechieru, Chelsea
Rechieru, Mason
Reeser, Nicholas
Richart, Andrew
Rivera, Nicholas
Rivera, Sophia
Roeder, Amy (Zdunowski)
Rogers, Christina
Rohm, Christina
Rohm, John
Rohm, Kathy (Sianis)
Rohm, Nikolas
Rohrbach, Madison
Ross, Ethan
Ross, Joshua
Ruchlewicz, AJ
Ruchlewicz, Joanne (Lasky)
Ruchlewicz, Sam
Ruser, Georgia (Tripolitis)
Saravanos, Maria (Zeppos)
Sariano, Thekla (Karahalias)
Sasaran, Alexander
Sasaran, Christopher
Savadelis, Andew
Savadelis, James
Savadelis, MaryAnn
Sbillis, Spiro
Scantzos, Alexander
Scantzos, Demetri
Scantzos, Kathryn
Scaros, Anthoula
Schlageter, Demetri
Schlageter, Konstantina
Schmalzer, Jenna (Platanos)
Schwambach, Maria
Seifert, Julia (Dracoules)
Shellhamer, JoAnne (Graham)
Shunk, Bryant
Shunk, Elaine (McGowan)
Shunk, Evangelia
Sianis, Andrea
Sianis, Harry
Sianis, Jim
Siegal, Tyler
Siklis, Harry
Simotas, Alex
Simotas, Niko
Simotas, Zachary
Simotas, Zoe
Siozos, Chrisovalantis
Siozos, Nickolaos
Sjoblom, Nicole (Zdunwoski)
Skoufalos, Mary (Xavios)
Smith, Anna
Smith, Elaine
Snyder, Patsy (Kraras)
Sotos, Eleni
Sotos, George
Sotos, Nicholas
Stamos, Peter
Stamos, Ourania
Stavrides, Dottie
Stefanowicz, Stratton
Steiner, Emily
Steiner, Hanna
Steiner, Jacob
Steiner, Jared
Steiner, Matthew
Steiner, Robert
Stephenson, Daniel
Stephenson, Margaret (Laletas)
Stergano, Jim
Sterganos, Gus
Sterious, Chris
Sterious, Dionysia
Sterious, Eleni
Sterious, Marilena (Kotsakis)
Stevens, Anastasia
Stevens, Tim
Stoulis, Anastasia
Stoulis, Constantine
Stoulis, Demetrius
Stoulis, Sophia
Stout, Maximus
Stratis, Fotini (Tzinis)
Stroumbakis, Alexandra
Stroumbakis, Constantine
Stroumbakis, Demetrios
Stroumbakis, Sophia
Sweigart, Alinda
Sweigart, Anthony
Sweigart, Jamie
Sweigart, Thanna
Szczawinski, Calvin
Szczawinski, Mia
Szczawinski, Olivia (Ioannidi)
Talotta, Stephanie (Rogers)
Tesfaye, David
Theodossiou, John
Thomas, Griffin P.
Thomas, James P.

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Thomas, John P.
Thomas, Kathryn
Thomas, Paul P.
Thomas, Peter W.
Thomas, William P.
Thompson, Fran (Sianis)
Thompson, Jonathan
Thompson, Zoe
Tilley, Adam (AJ)
Tilley, Amanda
Tilley, Vassou (Papoutsis)
Tomeo, Maria Verros
Torrence, Alaina
Torrence, Aliki
Torrence, Anna
Touhill, Katherine
Touhill, Shawn
Trampos, Emmanuel
Trampos, Zander
Trancan, Gabriel
Triantis, Mimi (Pappas)
Tripolitis, John
Tripolitis, Linda
Tsakeris, James
Tsakeris, Michael
Tsakeris, Stan
Tsakeris, Steve
Tzinis, Haralambos
Tzinis, Irene
Ulrich, Jordan
Ulrich, Nicole (Conzaman)
Ulrich, Sebastian
Valencia, Cali Mae
Vaughan, Cael
Vlassis, Florence (Mavredes)
Wadsworth, Brian
Wadsworth, Elizabeth (Rohm)
Wadsworth, Katherine
Wagner, Athena (Kontaxes)
Wagner, Chris
Wagner, David
Wagner, Jackson
Wagner, Maria
Wahba, Christopher
Wahba, Elizabeth
Wahba, Nicholas
Waligurski, David
Waligurski, Nicholas
Weeber, Christy (Chaknos)
Weeber, Hailey
Weidner, Joanne (Marmarou)
Werle, Alexandra
Werle, Michael J.
Wesner, Margaret (George)
Wesner, Timothy
Westover, Emma
Westover, Joshua
Westover, Riley
Wheatley, Christos
Wheatley, Medori
Whitman, Sharon (Bankes)
Xavios, Angela
Xavios, Jeff
Xavios, Michael
Xavios, Peter
Xavios, Thomas
Yannakos, Athena (Skarlatos)
Yannaris, Alex
Yannaris, Paul
Yatron, Alexander
Yatron, Christina
Yatron, George C.
Yatron, Gus
Yatron, Irene (Perin)
Yianoulis, Despina
Yost, Debbie (Marmarou)
Yost, Efstratios
Yost, Maria
Yost, Sophia
Zaffary, Christ
Zaffary, Jason
Zaffary, Nicholas
Zaffary, Nicholas
Zaffary, Peter
Zaffary, Peter
Zaffary, Stephanie
Zaharis, Catherine
Zdravecki, Anna
Zdravecki, Georgine (Deligiannis)
Zdunowski, Amy
Zdunowski, Stella
Zeppos, Alecko
Zeppos, Alekos George
Zeppos, Alex
Zeppos, Alexander
Zeppos, Chris
Zeppos, Christopher
Zeppos, Christopher
Zeppos, Demosthenes
Zeppos, Demosthenis Alex
Zeppos, Demosthenis Anastasios
Zeppos, George
Zeppos, George Alex
Zeppos, Sophia
Zervanos, Nikitas
Zervanos, Alexis James
Zervanos, Ava
Zervanos, Chris
Zervanos, Chris J.
Zervanos, Christ J.
Zervanos, Christopher A.
Zervanos, Ella
Zervanos, Evan M.
Zervanos, Hariklia (Fournaris)
Zervanos, Joyce (Baxewanis)
Zervanos, Matthew
Zervanos, Michael E.
Zervanos, Michael S.
Zervanos, Sandra (Sianis)
Zervanos, Stam
Zervanos, Stephen E.
Zogas, Alexander
Zogas, Brian
Zogas, Gus Dr.
Zogas, Natasha
Zogas, Tom
Zurawski, Alyssa (Stevens)
Zurawski, Cameron
Zurawski, Sarah

# OUR ST. XENIA CHAPTER PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

**PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF PHILOPTOCHOS**

***FRONT ROW:*** Maria Care, Cynthia Petrakis, Caroline Exas, Angie Barakos, Fr. Spyridon Papademetriou, Despina Denne, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Deacon Jim Elliker, Sharon Whitman, Joan Giovanis, Marika Krallis, Katherine Savadelis, Catherine Zaharis, Ann Kraras; ***SECOND ROW:*** Dawn Medaglia, Paraskevoula Phyrillas, Maro Kotsakis, Susan Rogers, Sandra Zervanos, Anna Koumaras, Christine Dialectos, Mary Sianis, Alice Karetas, Despina Yianoulis, Kathy Moyer, Kalliope English, Elaine Shunk, Victoria Porcaro, Eva Ross, Emlida Koci, Aspasia Simotas, Mary Tripolitis, Joanne Dialectos, Elizabeth Zeswitz, Eva Koutalelis, Esther Kovras; ***THIRD ROW:*** Denise Epler, Tula Donahue, Kathy Rohm, Janice Krallis, Marian Porcaro, Joyce Zervanos, Mary Dialectos, Lyvia Petris, Connie Fecera, Mary Kontaxes, Denise Hoffman, Susan Seibert, Effie Doukas, Cornelia Dikos, Evangeline McGowan, Vlacia Campbell, Maria Daniels, Katherine Kunkelman, Pres. Anne Pappalas, Joyce Lecatsas, Olivia Szczawinski, Soula Phyrillas; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Athena Wagner, Sharon Lountzis, Irene Loose, Margaret Phyrillas, Karen Chaknos, Laura Delp, Mary Pettis, Lula Goodhart, Joanna Petris, Anna Burkman, Aliki Limberiou, Barbara Futrick, Crina Sasaron, Christine Shaeffer, Angel Cammarano, Petroula Mitsiopoulos, Joanne Baxewanis, Maria Damore, Paula Berstler, Elaine Ott, Molly Kramer, Argyro Elliker, Elizabeth Ioannidi, Frances Ioannidi, Stephanie Ioannidi.

# ST. XENIA PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY
## 2013-2015 BOARD AND COMMITTEES

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Sharon Whitman, 1st Vice President
Angie Barakos, 2nd Vice President
Alice Karetas, Treasurer
Despina Yianoulis, Recording Secretary
Joan Giovanis, Corresponding Secretary
Ann Kraras, Ex Officio Officer
Cynthia Petrakis, Chaplain & Parliamentarian

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Angel Cammarano
Karen Chaknos
Kalliope English
Marika Krallis
Mary Pettis
Kathy Rohm
Mary Sianis
Olivia Szczawinski
Joyce Zervanos
Sandy Zervanos

Mary Sianis, Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou, Protopresbyter Tom Pappalas, Des Denne *(President)*, Deacon Jim Elliker, Sharon Whitman *(1st Vice President)*, Mary Pettis, Sandy Zervanos, Angie Barakos *(2nd Vice President)*, Olivia Szczawinski, Alice Karetas *(Treasurer)*, Marika Krallis, Ann Kraras, Cynthia Petrakis *(Chaplain & Parliamentarian)*, Joyce Zervanos, Despina Yianoulis *(Recording Secretary)*, Kathy Rohm, Joan Giovanis *(Corresponding Secretary).*

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**Apokries –** Staci Futrick; **Auditing –** Tula Donahue, Mary Dialectos, Angel Helm; **Bake Sale –** Joyce Zervanos, Elaine Ott *(Co-chairs)*, Marika Krallis *(Baking preparations)*, Sharon Whitman *(Pre-Orders)*; **Church Family Outreach –** Tula Donahue *(Cards for weddings, baptisms, 40-day blessings)*, Des Denne, Joyce Lecatsas *(special parishioner needs)*; **Community Outreach –** Angel Cammarano, Karen Chaknos; **Church Greeters –** Susan Rogers; **Educational Programs –** Joan Giovanis, Kathy Rohm; **Easter Eggs –** Laura Delp, Penny Ballas; **Easter Plant Sale –** Angel Cammarano; **Knitting Ministry –** Fran Ioannidi; **Membership Directory** – Paula Berstler, Ann Kraras, Des Denne; **Memorials (Kolyva) –** Mary Pettis; **Name Day Events –** Petroula Mitsiopoulos; **Orthodox Christian Fellowship –** Angie Barakos *(college student connection)*; **Orthodox Youth Awards –** Tula Donahue; **Prosphora –** Marika Krallis; **Public Relations & Communications –** Sandra Zervanos *(Publicity)*, Olivia Szczawinski *(Photography & Communications)*; **Shelter Ministry –** Kalliope English, Karen Chaknos; **Shut-in Visitations –** Aspasia Simotas; **Social Events –** Kathy Rohm, Joan Giovanis, Des Yianoulis; **Stewardship –** Paula Berstler; **Sunshine –** Mary Sianis, Dawn Medaglia; **Vasilopita –** Maro Kotsakis, Marika Krallis.

# OUR ST. XENIA CHAPTER PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Our local chapter of Philoptochos was started in 1934 and named St. Xenia by the Rev. George Nassis, the priest of the Reading parish at that time. Our ancestors tell us that while meditating one day, Fr. Nassis had a vision of a lovely young girl who announced herself as St. Xenia, a martyred saint of the Church. However, in all of his studies Fr. Nassis had never heard of her since none of the Church records ever mentioned her name. She asked Fr. Nassis to paint her likeness on an icon with her hands clasping a cross. At first, Fr. Nassis revealed this incident to no one for fear of being ridiculed. Finally, he could no longer contain himself and told his superiors about the appearance with such conviction that they went in search of her in ancient manuscripts. Eventually, they found an ecclesiastical work containing a description of St. Xenia as having long golden blond hair, blue eyes, and beautiful features – exactly as Fr. Nassis had witnessed in his vision.

St. Xenia was born in Kalamata in Peloponnesos in 291 A.D. She was raised by her parents with a devoted and strong faith in Jesus Christ, and as she matured, her deep faith outshone her physical beauty. Magistrate Dometianos, a non-Christian, fell in love with her and proposed marriage. She rejected his proposal since she could never agree to marry a non-Christian. He imprisoned and tortured her in order to change her mind, but his tactics failed to budge her beliefs. She was eventually executed on May 3, 311 A.D. Shortly thereafter, she was sainted by the Church because of the many miracles attributed to her.

In his reflections some years ago on the beginnings of our St. Xenia chapter, Mr. Gus Kraras recalled that back in the 1930s three or four ladies of our community visited each of the 37 Greek businesses in Reading to collect donations toward the flowers of the Epitafio. They would also buy the materials and sew the vestments for the Altar boys, as well as dress the Altar itself, and they made many other items for the Church. Later, it was the ladies of Philoptochos who used their baking expertise to organize the first bake sales which provided much needed income for the Church and which evolved into our now famous annual Greek Food Bazaar.

Much has certainly changed since the early years of our chapter. But like the generations of dedicated ladies who came before, today's members steadfastly continue the noble mission of service to our Lord, our Church, and to all those who need our help, in the name and memory of our Patron Saint, Xenia of Kalamata.

# OUR ST. XENIA PHILOPTOCHOS CHAPTER

## PAST PRESIDENTS OF PHILOPTOCHOS

1. Despina Seremetis+
2. Stavroula English+
3. Andromachi Efstration+
4. Evyenia Golfinopoulos+
5. Despina Fisher+
6. Antonia Morris+
7. Feroniki Kafkarisou+
8. Vasiliki Koutroulelis+
9. Helen Skias+
10. Eva Rellis+
11. Helen Troika+
12. Angie Graham+
13. Pauline Heckman
14. Marian Cheri
15. Mary Baxewanis+
16. Catherine Zaharis
17. Filippia Zeppos
18. Patricia Orphanos
19. Joyce Zervanos
20. Sandra Zervanos
21. Mary Pettis
22. Jennifer Mowbray+
23. Angel Cammarano
24. Ann Kraras

+*Deceased*

***FRONT ROW:*** Angel Cammarano, Joyce Zervanos, Ann Kraras, Sandy Zervanos, Des Denne, Mary Pettis;
***SECOND ROW:*** Deacon Jim Elliker, Protoprestyber Tom Pappalas, Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou.

# OUR ST. XENIA CHAPTER PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

## PAST AND PRESENT PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERS

Ruth Anthony
Kristina Antonellos
Katina Apostolakos
Pauline Apostolou*
Froso Apsokardu*
Vasiliki Apsokardu*
Elizabeth Architas*
Stamatia Architas*
Marianthi Arnidis*
Helen Arones*
Angela Arthur*
Marjorie Athas*
Eleftheria Avgoulas*
Penelope X. Ballas
Helen Bankes*
Crisanne Bansner
Angie Barakos
Angelica Baxewanis
Angeliki Baxewanis*
Joanne Baxewanis
Mary Baxewanis*
Marina Baxewanis
Irene Becker
Paula J. Berstler
Stephanie Breen
Aspasia Buck*
Anna Frangakis Burkman
Angel Cammarano
Vlacia Campbell
Bessie Capiotis*
Maria Care
Anna Carley
Christopher Carley
Despina Carnoles*
Isabel Chaknos*
Karen Chaknos
Marian Cheri
Mary Cheri*
Demetria Chupak
Mary Comins*
Stella Condos*
Karen Conzamen
Helen Dalaveris
Maria Damore
Catherine Daniels
Maria Daniels
Marcia Darcourt
Lula Dastra
Laura Delp
Katina Demetriou*
Despina Denne
Angeliki Dialectos*
Christine Dialectos
Joanne Dialectos
Mary Dialectos
Cornelia Dikos
Valerie Dikos
Tula Donahue
Eva Doukas*
Shelly Edwards
Andromachi Efstration*
Argyro S. Elliker
Kathleen Elliot
Rose Englezopoulos*
Aleka English*
Eugenia English*
Kalliope English
Stavroula English*
Caroline Exas
Maria Exas*
Marouli Exas*
Stella Exas*
Connie Fecera
Koula Firilas
Despina Fisher*
Fofo Flamporis
Maria Flamporis*
Athena Fotiou*
Helen Fotiou*
Thalia Fournaris*
Despina Frangakis
Frances Franks
Lena Fry*
Barbara Futrick
Staci Futrick
Pauline Gallas*
Sherry Ganas
Vasiliki Ganas*
Michele P. Garrett
Mary Garrett-Giovino
Frances George
Christine Georgeadis
Ann Geras
Joan M. Giovanis
Evyenia Golfinopoulos*
Lula Goodhart
Angie Graham*
Despina Green
Matina Hac*
Evangelia Halulakis*
Richelle Harbst
Stella C. Hatgiannis
Stella Hatza*
Aphrodite Hatzas*
Helen Hatzas
Pauline Heckman
Angel Helm
Vaso Hemrich
Denise G. Hoffmann
Marilyn Holden
Mersine Iliades
Elizabeth Ioannidi
Frances M. Ioannidi
Stephanie Ioannidi
Sophie Joseph*
Feroniki Kafkarisou*
Maria Kaisoglus
Lisa Kallis
Maria Karahalias
Alice Karetas
Anna Karetas*
Mary Karetas*
Christina Karythrakas*
Esther Karythrakas
Katherine Katsigiannis
Joanne Koch
Emliha Koci
Esther Kompos
Mary Kontaxes
Vasiliki Kopteros*
Eva Kordopatis*
Maro Kotsakis
Anna Koumaras
Helen Koumaras*
Mary Koursaros
Betty Kousaros*
Niki Kousoulides*
Evriklia (Eva) Koutalelis
Andromache Koutroulelis*
Vasiliki Koutroulelis*
Esther Kovras
Vasiliki Kralles*
Janice Krallis
Maria Krallis*
Marika Krallis
Molly Kramer
Ann Kraras
Irene Kraras*
Stella Kraras*
Jennie Kratsas*
Dorothy Kreisher
Katherine Kunkelman
Helen Laletas*
Mim Lambros
Irene Lampros*
Kalliope Lampros*
Lillian Lasky*
Joyce Lecatsas
Marie Lecatsas
Stephanie Lecatsas
Aliki Limberiou
Dena Limberiou
Irene Loose
Alexandra Lountzis*
Katie Lountzis
Sharon Lountzis
Anna Manolakelli*
Susan Mara
Maria Marmarou*
Mary Marmarou
Mary Dracoules Marmarou*
Evangeline McGowan
Dawn Medaglia
Petroula Mitsiopoulos
Angeline Monos*
Amelia Morris*
Antonia Morris*
Stella Morris
Jennifer Mowbray*
Stella Z. Mowbray
Kathy Moyer
Helen Nicholas
Stella Ninfo
Sandra Odagis
Irene Orphanos*
Patti Orphanos
Elaine N. Ott
Efrosini Panselinou*
Diane Papademetriou
Anne Pappalas
Androniki Pappas*
Athena Pappas*
Kaliope Pappas
Vasiliki Pappas*
Christalla Papson*
Vasiliki Paskos*

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR ST. XENIA CHAPTER PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

## PAST AND PRESENT PHILOPTOCHOS MEMBERS

Sadie Patton*
Anastasia Perezous
Marika Perezous*
Cynthia Petrakis
Eftihia Petrakis*
Frank T. Petrakis
Georgia Petrakis*
Victoria Petrakis
Joanna Petris
Lyvia Petris
Cornelia Pettis*
Evlambia Pettis*
Helen Pettis*
Mary Pettis
Rose Pettis*
Chrysoula Phyrillas
Margaret Phyrillas
Paraskevi Phyrillas
Fifi Plastiras*
Kathy Platanos
Koola Poolos*
Marian Porcaro
Victoria Porcaro
Despina Psaradellis*
Debra A. Reber
Eva Rellis*
Liz Rogers*
Susan Rogers
Kathy Rohm
Katherine Romeo*
Eva Ross
Joann Ruchlewicz
Therna Salakos*
Crina Sasaran
Kathy Savadelis
Georgina Schlappich
Susan Seibert
Despina Seremetis*
Rose Sevast*
Christine Shaeffer
Theana Sheetz
Athena Shugars
Elaine Shunk
Amelia Sianis*
Fotini Sianis*
Mary Sianis
Stella Sianis*
Aspasia Simotas
Helen Skias*
Bessie Sophianopoulos*
Stephanie Stefanowicz
Margaret A. Stephenson
Dora Stevens
Effie Stevens*
Foto Stevens*
Christine Swoyer*
Olivia Szczawinski
Christine Tambakis
Mary Tambakis
Esther Thomas
Thalia Thomas*
Irene Tripolitis*
Mary Tripolitis
Shirley Tripolitis
Helen Troika*
Vlacia Tsakeris
Vasilia Vardaxis
Mary (Kal) Varish
Athena Wagner
Margaret Wesner
Sharon Whitman
Sophie Xavios*
Despina Yianoulis
Theodora Yianoulis*
Elizabeth Young
Mary Zaffary*
Rallia Zaffary*
Catherine Zaharis
Pat Zampelli
Eleny Zeppos
Filippia Zeppos
Catherine Zervanos
Joyce Zervanos
Sandra Zervanos
Seva Zervanos*
Vasiliki “Bessie” Zervanos*
Elizabeth Zeswitz

**Deceased*

# OUR ALTAR BOYS

## PAST AND PRESENT ALTAR BOYS

***FRONT ROW:*** Jackson Wagner, Brian Wadsworth, Steven Elliker, AJ Tilley, Niko Simotas, Manny Hansen, Nick Lountzis, Aleko Zeppos, Harrison Robitzer, Ethan Ross, Joshua Ross, Tommy Hunsicker, Christopher Sasaran, Stephen Lambriodes; ***SECOND ROW:*** Steve Marmarou, Gus Kraras, Chris Wagner, A.J. Futrick, Alex Midouhas, Deacon Jim Elliker, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Steve Lecatsas Jr., Strat Marmarou, Drew Campbell, Jim Tsakeris, Alexander Elliker; ***THIRD ROW:*** Evan Lambros, Evan Zervanos, Dino Kotsakis, Stav Koumaras, Anthony Futrick, Harry Dialectos, Vasilis Phyrillas, Alex Lountzis, Josh Koumaras; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Anthony Koumaras, Alex Simotas, Alan Futrick, Mike Futrick, Nick Lambros, John Rohm, Vasilis Kotsakis, George Yatron, Alex Lountzis, Nick Karetas, Frankie Petrakis, James Phyrillas, Gino Caloiero, Alex Yatron, Thomas Moyer, Soci Phyrillas, Matthew Moyer, Gus Kotsakis, Alexandros Mattheos, Mark Dialectos, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Chris Kraras, Chris Sterious, Dean Exas, Steve Lecatsas, Athan Dialectos, Nick Karetas Jr., Sterg Dikos, Nick Krallis, Michael Toma-Pendos, Chris Dikos, Mike Macaronis, Christian Chupak, Joshua Chupak, Steven Elliker.

# OUR ALTAR BOYS

The Altar Boys in our Sts. Constantine & Helen Church of Reading over these first one hundred years number in the thousands, with virtually every young boy who has ever been brought up in our Church serving on a regular basis from the age of five or six all the way to their senior year in high school. These Altar Boys serve our Lord faithfully every Sunday and during the many special Holy Days of our Greek Orthodox Church. It is always inspiring to see how very seriously young Altar Boys take their responsibilities, how much it impacts their lives, and how they take the lessons they've learned in the Altar with them for the rest of their lives.

The Altar Boys in our Orthodox Church, although not ordained, are given the task of assisting the Priest in liturgical duties. Their responsibilities include lighting altar candles, preparing the charcoal and incense for the Censer (Themiato), carrying the various icons and other ornamental depictions of our Church, and assisting the Priest with all the major orders of the Liturgy.

One of the most special events for an Altar Boy is the time when he is tonsured by the Bishop or by the Metropolitan, which gives him a special blessing and a special appointment and position serving in our Church. This is something that he keeps with him for life and at the same time, his vestments are blessed and become somewhat similar to that of the Deacon. A very special Tonsuring Service was held during the Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of our Church by Metropolitan Savas when he tonsured 25 of our young boys into this very meaningful position in our Church.

When our ancestors came to this country, they had little money, little education and little, if any, knowledge of the English language. However, they all had one thing in common, which was their love for the Lord and their knowledge of His influence on their daily lives. So when they started our Church, they knew that one of the most important aspects of having this edifice in place is that their sons could begin serving the Lord as Altar Boys. All of our ancestors, parents, and grandparents who came to this area all the way up to today, have proudly served as Altar Boys of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

# OUR ALTAR BOYS

## PAST AND PRESENT ALTAR BOYS

Anderson, Greg
Apostolakos, Peter
Apsokardu, Blake
Apsokardu, George
Apsokardu, Michael
Apsokardu, William
Arnidis, Foty
Arnidis, James Sr.
Assimikopolis, George
Assimikopolis, Peter
Bankas, William
Barakos, Yianni
Baxewanis, John
Bellman, Nick
Brandt, Adam
Brandt, Michael
Bratiotis, George Fr.
Breit, Peter
Caloiero, Gino
Cammarano, Andrew
Campbell, Andrew
Chaknos, Mark
Chaknos, Michael
Chupak, Christian
Chupak, Joshua
Copeland, Steve
Dalaveris, Louis MD
Damore, James
Dantos, Dimitri
Dastra, James
Dialectos, Adam
Dialectos, Athan
Dialectos, George
Dialectos, Harry
Dialectos, Jordan
Dialectos, Mark
Dialectos, Thenson
Dikos, Chris
Dikos, Stergios
Dimitriou, Harry
Donahue, Bern
Dumitrescu, Gabriel
Eliker, Alexander
Eliker, Steven
English, Jim
Exas, Adam
Exas, Dean
Exas, John
Faust, Michael
Firilas, Tony
Fisher, Greg
Fisher, Nick
Flamporis, Stamatios
Flamporis, Stavros
Futrick, Alan
Futrick, Alan Jr.
Futrick, Anthony
Futrick, Michael
Gasparis, Milton Dr.
Giovanis, Christopher G.
Giovanis, John G.
Grassley, Alexander
Hansen, Emmanuel
Hargrave, Evan
Heckman, Kevin
Heckman, Vince
Helm, Austin
Helm, Grayson
Hunsicker, Tommy
Ioannidi, Christos
Kallis, Nicholaos
Kallis, Panagiotis
Kallis, Vasilios
Kanakis, Alex
Karahalias, Dennis
Karetas, Aidan
Karetas, Andrew J.
Karetas, Nicholas D.
Karetas, Nick S.
Kollintzas, Dean
Kostomiris, Demetrios
Kostomiris, Michael
Kostomiris, Nicholas
Kotsakis, Dino
Kotsakis, Gus
Kotsakis, Vasilios
Koumaras, Aaron
Koumaras, Anthony
Koumaras, Colby
Koumaras, Gaberiel
Koumaras, George Dr.
Koumaras, George S. Dr.
Koumaras, Joshua
Koumaras, Stav
Koumaras, Stratton
Krallis, George
Krallis, Nick
Kraras, Chris G.
Kraras, Chris J.
Kraras, Dean
Kunkelman, Matt
Kyvelos, Daniel
Lambriodes, George
Lambriodes, Stephen
Lambros, Evan
Lambros, James
Lambros, Nicholas
Lawrence, Christopher
Lecatsas, Chris A.
Lecatsas, Nicholas
Lecatsas, Spiro S.
Lecatsas, Steve Jr.
Lecatsas, Steve M.
Limberiou, Angelo
Limberiou, Evan
Limberiou, Nick
Limberiou, George
Limberiou, Peter
Limberiou, Teddy
Loose, David C.
Lountzis, Alexander
Lountzis, Andrew
Lountzis, Nicholas
Lountzis, Paul
Lountzis, Tyler
Lountzis, Zachary
Macaronis, Michael
Macaronis, Phil
Marmarou, Anthony V.
Marmarou, Bill
Marmarou, John
Marmarou, Peter D.
Marmarou, Steve
Marmarou, Stratton P.
Mattheos, Alexandros
Mavreles, Michael
Mavreles, Niko
Mavreles, Stephen
Midouhas, Alexander
Miller, Christopher
Miller, Matthew
Miller, Michael P.
Mitchell, Kyran
Mitchell, Stephan
Mowbray, Matthew
Moyer, Matthew W.
Moyer, Thomas M.
Murley, Jeremy
Murti, Ravi
Orphanos, Ernie
Orphanos, Nicholas J.
Orphanos, Nicholas P.
Pace, Nicholas
Pace, Warren
Panos, Bill
Papademetriou, Spyridon
Papademetriou, Stanley
Pappalas, Peter
Pappas, Evan
Patestas, Pete
Petestas, Yanni
Pendos-Toma, Michael
Perezous, John
Perezous, Theodore
Petrakis, Frank T.
Petrakis, Frankie
Petrakis, Michael
Petrakis, Stephen

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR ALTAR BOYS

## PAST AND PRESENT ALTAR BOYS

Petrakis, Ty
Pettis, Christ
Pettis, David
Phillippides, Nick
Phyrillas, Anastasis
Phyrillas, James
Phyrillas, Patrick
Phyrillas, Vasillis
Platanos, Christopher
Polyak, Evan
Porcaro, Chris
Porcaro, Dante
Porcaro, Dean
Porcaro, Nicholas
Radwanski, Jonathan
Richert, Andrew
Robitzer, Harrison
Rohm, John
Ross, Ethan
Ruchlewicz, AJ
Ruchlewicz, Sam
Sasaran, Christopher
Savadelis, Drew
Scantzos, Alexander
Scantzos, Demetrios
Schlageter, Demetri
Shunk, Bryandt William
Sianis, Chris
Sianis, Harry
Siegal, Tyler
Simotas, Alex
Simotas, Nicholas
Siozos, Chrisovalantis
Stamos, Peter
Stefanowicz, Stratton
Stephenson, Daniel
Sterious, Christ
Sweigert, Anthony
Thomas, William P.
Thomas, Bill
Thomas, Griffin P.
Thomas, James P.
Thomas, Peter W.
Thompson, Jonathan
Tiley, Adam James "AJ"
Tsakeris, James
Wadsworth, Brian
Wagner, Chris
Wagner, David
Wagner, Jackson
Waligurski, David
Waligurski, Nicholas
Werle, Michael J.
Wesner, Timothy
Xavios, Jeff
Xavios, Michael
Yatron, Alexander
Yatron, George C.
Yatron, Gus
Zaffary, Christ
Zaffary, Jason
Zaffary, Nicholas
Zaffary, Peter
Zeppos, Alecko
Zeppos, Alex
Zeppos, Alexander
Zeppos, Chris
Zeppos, Demosthenes "Mimi"
Zeppos, Demosthenes
Zeppos, George
Zervanos, Alexis James
Zervanos, Christ J.
Zervanos, Christopher A.
Zervanos, Evan
Zervanos, Michael E.
Zervanos, Mike
Zervanos, Stam Dr.
Zervanos, Stephen E.
Zervanos, Evan M.
Zogas, Gus Dr.
Zogas, Tom

## PRESENT ALTAR BOYS

(as of August 21, 2014)

**GROUP 1 (THRONES)**
Chrisovalantis Siozos
Gino Caloiero
Michael Toma
Christ Sterious
Dante Porcaro
Michael Faust
Anthony Sweigart
Alexander Zeppos
Brian Wadsworth
Alexios Grassley
Emmanuel Hansen
Stephen Elliker
Konstantine Schlageter
Nikolas Kiritsis
Stanley Maoury

**GROUP 2 (POWERS)**
James Phyrillas
Evan Hargrave
Daniel Kyvelos
Teddy Limberiou
George Limberiou
Kyran Mitchell
Stephen Mitchell
Harry Robitzer
Yanni Patestas
Demetrios Scantzos
Alexander Scantzos
Ethan Ross
Nicholas Simotas
Matthew Patestas

**GROUP 3 (SERAPHIM)**
Andrew Lountzis
Peter Breit
Demetrios Damore
Alexander Midouhas
Anthony Marmarou
Evan Polyak
Nicholas Lountzis
Peter Daglis
Jonathan Radwanski
Adam Tilley
Ayden Lynch
Christopher Sarasan
Nathan Radwanski
Nikolas Rohm

**GROUP 4 (ARCHANGELS)**
Anastasios Phyrillas
Nicholas Waligurski
Joshua Koumaras
Vasilios Phyrillas
Anthony Futrick
Michael Faust
Alan Futrick, Jr.
Gabe Koumaras
Tyler Siegel
Tommy Hunsicker
Aidan Karetas
Jackson Wagner
Cristo Hunsicker
Christopher Kraras

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

## PAST AND PRESENT G.O.Y.A. MEMBERS

***FRONT ROW:*** Angie Barakos, Ann Kraras, Kathy Rohm, Elizabeth Wadsworth, Jessica Craciun, Christiana Nicoloudakis, Margaret Phyrillas, Deacon Jim Elliker, Father Tom Pappalas, Sharon Lountzis, Elaine Shunk, Tess Kotsakis, Soula Phyrillas, Theodora Siozos, Joyce Zervanos, Sal Caloiero; ***SECOND ROW:*** Jim Rohm, Alex Elliker, Joanne Ruchlewicz, Sandy Zervanos, George Nicoloudakis, Alex Midouhas, Soci Phyrillas, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Alex Lountzis, Anna Caloiero, Stavanna Donahue, Patrick Phyrillas, Vasili Phyrillas, James Phyrillas, Cindy Petrakis, Pat Orphanos, Kara Mowbray, Irene Becker, Steve Elliker; ***THIRD ROW:*** Roula Elliker, Frank Petrakis, Chris G. Kraras, Evan Zervanos, Michael E. Zervanos, Chris Wagner, Steve Zervanos, Michelle Craciun, Angeliki Miranda, Andrew Lountzis, George Krallis, Sterg Dikos, Chris Dikos, Maria Phyrillas, Gus Kotsakis, Mary Caloiero, Vaz Kotsakis, Gino Caloiero, Alex Simotas, Daniel Kyvelos, Stephen Lambriodes, Xeni Barakos, Christina Yatron, Stephanie Talotta, Christina Rogers, Tula Donahue, Sharon Whitman.

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

## 2013-2014 G.O.Y.A. MEMBERS

***FRONT ROW:*** Jessica Craciun, Christiana Nicoloudakis, Margaret Phyrillas – GOYA Co-Advisor, Father Tom Pappalas, Sharon Lountzis – GOYA Co-Advisor, Anna Caloiero, Stephen Lambriodes; ***SECOND ROW:*** George Nicoloudakis, Alex Midouhas, Soci Phyrillas, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Alex Lountzis, Vasilis Phyrillas, Stavanna Donahue, James Phyrillas; ***THIRD ROW:*** Michelle Craciun, Angeliki Miranda, Andrew Lountzis, Sterg Dikos, Gino Caloiero, Daniel Kyvelos, Patrick Phyrillas.

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

## G.O.Y.A. BASKETBALL

GOYA Basketball has been a part of our GOYA Ministry since it began on March 10, 1953. Many GOYA memories come from tournaments across the Metropolis and neighboring churches. We have hosted and attended countless one-day scrimmages and weekend tournaments over the years. In recent years, we have traveled to churches in Pittsburgh and Ohio for weekend tournaments, in addition to holding weekly practices. Basketball tournaments are a unique way for GOYAns to come together for games, fellowship, and Liturgy. The GOYAns cheer each other on during games and show good sportsmanship to other teams. Most recently, our GOYA hosted a tournament on February 17-19, 2012, where over 300 GOYAns, coaches, parents, and chaperones from all over the Metropolis attended. Basketball tournaments are always full of laughter, friendship and memories that continue to build on our beautiful Orthodox Faith.

### G.O.Y.A. BASKETBALL TEAM – 2013-2014

***FRONT ROW:*** Amara Midouhas, Gus Kotsakis – Coach, Father Thomas Pappalas, Vaz Kotsakis – Coach, Anna Caloiero, Stavanna Donahue; ***SECOND ROW:*** Christiana Nicoloudakis, Alex Midouhas, Soci Phyrillas, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Alex Lountzis, Stephen Lambriodes, James Phyrillas; ***THIRD ROW:*** Andrew Lountzis, Sterg Dikos, Gino Caloiero, Vasilis Phyrillas, Daniel Kyvelos.

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

The mission of GOYA, *Greek Orthodox Youth of America,* Ministry is to strengthen the relationship of young Orthodox Christians with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The program works to educate and edify young members of the Church, encouraging them to become active sacramental participants in the life of the Body of Christ. This ministry offers them the opportunity to experience the Faith, ultimately leading them to Salvation. Our GOYA at St. Constantine and Helen began on March 10, 1953. Our GOYA Ministry integrates the following elements into all aspects of their programming: *worship, fellowship, service,* and *witness.* GOYAns experience *worship* by actively participating in Divine services and Sacraments of the Church. This includes an active prayer life, reading the Bible, and serving as an Acolyte. GOYAns experience *fellowship* by attending Camp Nazareth, going to basketball tournaments throughout the Metropolis, and participating in the KEFI Dance Troupe. They display great sportsmanship, form lifelong friendships, and make memories while growing in their Faith. GOYAns experience *service* by offering their time, talent and treasures to the Church. This is done by volunteering at our Annual Food Bazaar, sponsoring needy families during Christmas, participating at the Opportunity House, and working the Food Pantry. GOYAns experience *witness* by learning about Christ's teachings and leading by example. This is done by inviting friends to Church, making the sign of the Cross and letting Christ's love shine in all they do. We have been blessed with an amazing GOYA from the beginning, where we have had many parents, advisors and coaches who have given countless hours to our ministry. We would not be where we are today without their love and support. We are continuing to grow, as we help GOYAns build the foundation to their Faith surrounded by friends and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

The GREEK ORTHODOX YOUTH OF AMERICA, or GOYA, is a ministry. The true mission of the GOYA Ministry is to strengthen the relationship of young Orthodox Christians with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The program works to educate and edify young members of our Orthodox Church Community, and encourage them to become active sacramental participants in the life of the Body of Christ. This ministry offers them the opportunity to experience the Faith, ultimately leading them to Salvation.

Our local GOYA of Sts. Constantine & Helen can trace its beginning back to the early 1950s. Over these many years, the GOYA has been very active in so many aspects of the Community life of our Church. They are a very visible and powerful organization and one that has had a tremendous impact on the young lives of the young people who participate in its many programs. We have been blessed over these many years to have many wonderful Advisors and Leaders who have kept GOYA and these thousands of young people on the true path of our Orthodox teachings.

There are many goals for those who are part of the GOYA Ministry and some of the most important aims of those who are part of the GOYA are as follows:

- Actively participating in the Divine Liturgy Services and Sacraments of the Church.
- Becoming familiar with different services of the Church and their role in the service.
- Praying for those who are sick or in need.
- Reading the Bible and other religious writings.
- Participating in Church sponsored camps and retreat programs.
- Participating in Church sponsored athletic programs, ethnic dancing, etc.
- Participating in inter-Orthodox activities.
- Volunteering either at the parish or in the local community
- Participating in group activities on various topics, books, movies, music, etc.
- Attending Church, GOYA Ministry gatherings, and other Church related activities
- Offering their personal stewardship—giving of time, talent, and treasure—to both the Church and local community charities.
- Participating in work projects to beautify and maintain the parish and local community.
- Outreaching to the elderly, the sick, the shut-ins, etc.
- Volunteering for a local soup kitchen or other community charities.
- Learning about Christ's teachings and living them.
- Making newcomers feel welcome.
- Maintaining Christian integrity in all areas of their lives.
- Letting Christ's love shine in all they do.

We are grateful to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for providing this wonderful Ministry that has guided so many of our young Orthodox Christians over these many years in our Community of Sts. Constantine & Helen.

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

## PAST AND PRESENT G.O.Y.A. ADVISORS AND COACHES

Angie Barakos
George Barakos
Xeni Barakos
Sal Caloiero
Bernie Donahue
Chris Dikos
Fr. Nicholas Halkias
Presbytera Anne-Charissa Halkias
Pauline Heckman
George Kanakis
Peggy Kanakis
Gus Kotsakis
Vaz Kotsakis
Christ Kraras
Ann Kraras
Fr. Andrew Lentz
John Lountzis
Sharon Lountzis
Richard E. Miller
Matthew Mowbray
Ernie Orphanos
Pat Orphanos
Cynthia Petrakis
Frankie Petrakis
Frank T. Petrakis
David Pettis
Margaret Phyrillas
Jim Rohm
John Rohm
Kathy Rohm
Walt Ruchlewicz
Harry Sianis
Mary Sianis
CJ Sterious
Christina Yatron
Joyce Zervanos
Stam Zervanos
Stephen Zervanos

## PAST AND PRESENT G.O.Y.A. MEMBERS

Kristina Petris Antonellos
Rhea Hatzistavrakis Antonellos
Joanne Apostalakis
Peter Apostalakis
George Apsokardu
George Asimakopoulos
William Bankes
Vasiliki Barakos
Xeni Barakos
Yianni Barakos
Jennifer Bauscher
Joanne Baxewanis
John Baxewanis
Nikki Becker
Michael Billys
Marilena Bona
Adam Brandt
Michael Brandt
Fr. George Bratiotis
Julia Breit
Peter Breit
Anna Caloiero
Gino Caloiero
Mary Panos Caloiero
Donald Cameron
Andrew Cammarano
Angel Cammarano
Stephanie Cammarano
Alexis Campbell
Drew Campbell
Mercena Stefanowicz Canales
JJ Carrasquillo
Christina Chaknos
Mark Chaknos
Michael Chaknos
Maria Gasparis Chondris
Christian Chupak
Joshua Chupak
Panayiotis Clauser
Nicole Conzaman
Steve Copeland
Jessica Craciun
Michele Craciun
Maria Elliker Crassas
Alaina Futrick Dachowski
Dr. Louis Dalaveris, M.D.
James Damore
Maria Flamporis Damore
Olivia Damore
Eleni Deligiannis
Laura Dalaveris Delp
Despina Ionnidi Denne
Athan Dialectos
Jocelyn Dialectos
Karissa Dialectos
Mark Dialectos
Mary Zervanos Dialectos
Thenson Dialectos
Alexandra Dikos
Chris Dikos
Sterg Dikos
Harry Dimitriou
Bern Donahue
Stavanna Donahue
Tula Kraras Donahue
Elizabeth Wagner Dowiak
Alexander Elliker
Christine Elliker
Elyse Elliker
Stephen Elliker
Kathy Orphanos Elliot
Kallie English
Dean Exas
Stanley Fanaras
Maria Limberiou Faust
Jennifer Pappalas Fernez
Anthony Firilas
Stavros Flamporis
Sebastian Frangiadis
Frannie Orphanos Franks
Alan Futrick
Michael Futrick
Staci Lambros Futrick
Stefanie Franks Garcia
Dr. Milton Gasparis
Alex George
Socrates Georgeadis
Christopher G. Giovanis
John G. Giovanis
Bessie Grammaticas
Argie Perezous Hansen
Kevin Heckman
Austin Helm
Grayson Helm
Joanna Helm
Angel Helm
Angie Iliadis Hessen
Marisa Kraras Hunsicker
John Ioannidi
Angie Ioannidis
Panagiotis Ioannidis
Stacy Ioannidis
Michael Johns
John Jones
Maryann Kakalelis
Nicholaos Kallis
Panagiotis Kallis
Vasilios Kallis
Alexander Kanakis
Demetra Kanakis
Cassandra Pettis Karamanos
Kali Iliadis Karomfily
Nick Katsigiannis
Maria Kolevas
Peter Kolevas
Constantine Kollintzas
Felicia Kollintzas

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR G.O.Y.A.

## PAST AND PRESENT G.O.Y.A. MEMBERS

Dimitri Kompos
Dino Kotsakis
Gus Kotsakis
Tess Panos Kotsakis
Vaz Kotsakis
Anthony Koumaras
Colby Koumaras
Joshua Koumaras
Stav Koumaras
Leah Koutroulelis
George Krallis
Nicholas Krallis
George Kranis
Chris Kraras
Dean Kraras
Maria Shunk Kriebel
Daniel Kyvelos
George Lambriodes
Stephen Lambriodes
Nicholas Lambros
Olympia Lambros
Casey Lawrence
Christopher Lawrence
Stav Lecatsas
Stephanie Lecatsas
Steve Lecatsas
Alexander Lountzis
Andrew Lountzis
Michael Macaronis
Philip Macaronis
Sotiris Maliadis
James Mandolos
Ernest Manuel
Christine Mara
Irene Theodossiou Marcantonis
Evelyn Marmarou
Rallia Marmarou
Stratton Marmarou
James Marris
Irene Tzinis Mather
Alexandros Mathews
Michael Mavreles
Niko Mavreles
Stephen Mavreles
Evangeline McGowan
Vannessa Medaglia
Alexander Midouhas
Christopher Miller
Matthew Miller
Michael P. Miller
Angeliki Miranda
Kyran Mitchell
Stephanie Copeland Mitchell
Kara Mowbray
Matthew Mowbray
Stella Zaffary Zdunowski Mowbray
Matthew Moyer
Thomas Moyer
Benjamin Nicholas
Christiana Nicoloudakis
George Nicoloudakis
Anastasia Orphanos Noll
Ernest Orphanos
Nicholas J. Orphanos
Nicholas P. Orphanos
Bill Panos
Cassandra Papademitriou
Metaxia Papademitriou
Spyridon Papademitriou
Alexandra Papoutsis
Brianna Papoutsis
Peter Pappalas
Renee Pappalas
Elaine Pappas
Evan Pappas
Nikki Pappas
Peter Patestas
Cathy Baxewanis Pavlatos
Kathy Petris Pehlivanidis
John Perezous
Theodore Perezous
Frankie T. Petrakis
Cynthia Kousoulides Petrakis
Nysia F. Petrakis
Ty C. Petrakis
Frank Petrakis
Dimitri Petris
Lyvia Georgeadis Petris
Christ Pettis
David Pettis
Vai Siklas Pflederer
Andrea Philippides
Nicholas Philippides
Anastasis Phyrillas
James Phyrillas
Maria Phyrillas
Patrick Phyrillas
Spiro Phyrillas
Vasilis Phyrillas
Despina Gasparis Platanos
Marissa Stephenson Pollet
Alexa Porcaro
Christopher Porcaro
Marian Porcaro
Nicholas Porcaro
Kelly Pownall
Jennifer E. Rogers Profit
Christina Rogers
John Rohm
AJ Ruchlewicz
Sam Ruchlewicz
Andrew Savadelis
Jim Savadelis
Maria Zappos Seravanos
Jo-Anne Graham Shellhamer
Bryant Shunk
Evangelia Shunk
Elaine McGowan Shunk
Harry Sianis
James Sianis
Mary Sianis
Zoe Sianis
Harry Siklas
Alexandros Simotas
Chrisovalantis Siozos
Helen Sotos
George Soumas
Archondia Petris Sourasi
Peter Stamos
Orania Stamos
Stratton Stefanowicz
Daniel Stephenson
Margaret Laletas Stephenson
Chris Sterious
Eleni Sterious
Marilena Kotsakis Sterious
Cleo Stevens
Elaine Yannakos Stoudt
Fotini Tzinis Stratis
Olivia Ioannidi Szczawinski
Anthony Talarico
Stephanie Rogers Talotta
Christina Yannakos Theocharides
John Theodossiou
Griffin P. Thomas
William P. Thomas
Fran Thompson
Jonathon Thompson
Zoe Thompson
Alaina Torrence
Anna Torrence
Georgia Ruser Tripolitis
John Tripolitis
Linda Tripolitis
Haralambos Tzinis
Elizabeth Rohm Wadsworth
Chris Wagner
David Wagner
Elizabeth Wahba
David Waligurski
Nicholas Waligurski
Alexandria Werle
Michael J Werle
Riley Westover
Sharon Bankes Whitman
Alexander Yannaris
Angeliki Yannaris
Paul Yannaris
Alexander Yatron
Christina Yatron
Despina Yianoulis
Stephanie Zaffary
Nicholas Zaffary
Georgine Deligiannis Zdravecki
Amy Zdunowski
Alexander Zeppos
Christopher Zeppos
Demosthenes Zeppos
George Zeppos
Maria Zeppos
Christopher A. Zervanos
Evan M. Zervanos
Joyce Zervanos
Michael E. Zervanos
Michael S. Zervanos
Sandra Sianis Zervanos
Stam Zervanos
Stephen E. Zervanos
Ted Zogas

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS

***FRONT ROW:*** Niko Simotas, Zachary Simotas, Zoe Simotas, Chirstopher Zeppos, Alekos Zeppos, Alexia Polyak, Alexander Scantzos, Mia Limberiou, Manny Hansen, Zoe Hansen, Chrysoula Phyrillas, Patrick Phyrillas, Barbara Lambriodes, Achilleas Lambriodes; ***SECOND ROW:*** Sandra Zervanos, Joyce Zervanos, Kathy Tsakeris, Harry Dialectos, Sophia Tzinis, Fr. Tom Pappalas, Jackson Wagner, Evan Polyak, Dimitri Scantzos, Zoe Limberiou, Argie Hansen, Maria Wagner, Chris Wagner, James Crassas, Thomas Crassas, Maria Crassas, Stephen Elliker; ***THIRD ROW:*** Marian Porcaro, Evan Zervanos, Stam Zervanos, James Tsakeris, Despina Denne, Aspasia Kotsakis, Steve Lecatsas, Joyce Lecatsas, Stephanie Lecatsas, Eleni Sotos, Evelyn Marmarou, Fotini Stratis, Irene Tzinis, Roula Elliker, Jennifer Fernez; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Nicholas Karetas, Despina Yianoulis, Angeliki Miranda, George Zeppos, Elaine Ott, Sharon Whitman, Marianthi Caloiero, Tony Phyrillas, James Phyrillas, George Asimakopoulos, Steve Lecatsas, Athan Dialectos, Fani Polyak, Panayiotis Clauser, Christos Dikos, Metaxia Kostomeris, Haralambos Tzinis, Nickolaos Siozos, Esther Ganas-Miranda.

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL

## 2013-2014 GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS

***FRONT ROW:*** Sophia Tzinis, Maria Wagner, Alekos Zeppos, Christopher Zeppos, Zoe Simotas, Fr. Tom Pappalas, Zachary Simotas, Zoe Hansen, Manny Hansen, Felicia Kollintzas; ***SECOND ROW:*** Zoe Limberiou, Alexia Polyak, Anthony Sweigart, Claudia Beighley, Thanna Sweigart, Alinda Sweigart, Alexia Beighley, Jamie Sweigart, Mia Limberiou, Niko Simotas, Esther Ganas-Miranda; ***THIRD ROW:*** Panayiotis Clauser *(behind flag)*, Alex Midouhas, Christiana Nicoloudakis, George Nicoloudakis, Chrysovalantis Siozos, Alexander Lountzis, Alexandros Matthews, James Phyrillas, Michele Craciun, Jessica Craciun, Evan Polyak, Gabriella Pendos, Jackson Wagner, Alexandra Bozakis, Angeliki Miranda.

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL

The roots of our Greek School of Sts. Constantine & Helen can be traced all the way back to 1917 when a very modest donation was made to start a Greek School to continue to keep our Greek immigrants educated in their native language. Over these hundred years, the evolution of the Greek School has been very interesting and very impactful to the members of our Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Community. It is noteworthy to point out that throughout these one hundred years, the Greek School continued uninterrupted during many good times and many bad times.

The Greek School originally started at our first Church at Chestnut and Lemon Streets. From there it evolved to a building that was bought by our Community on Walnut Street in Reading where it remained for many years. There were also Greek School activities at the Church at 8th and Court Streets. From the year 1970 to today, the Greek School activities are conducted at our current location on East Wyomissing Boulevard.

In the early days, Greek School was conducted every day of the week in the afternoons following the regular public school sessions. The normal times of Greek School were five days a week from 4 to 6 p.m. In the early years, it was very common to have over one hundred students in two different classes with two different teachers, plus the Parish Priest teaching them. In the 1940s and 1950s with many of the families being disrupted by the wars and other struggles, the attendance shrunk to about twenty students and most of the teaching in the Greek School was conducted by the Parish Priest.

Over these last 35 years, there have been many wonderful volunteers who have given so much of their time to continue to teach our young people the Greek language and the Greek traditions in addition to the important principles that guide our Greek Orthodox faith. Literally thousands of young people have, in fact, benefitted from the Greek School programs that we have had at our Church over these first one hundred years.

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL
## GREEK SCHOOL TEACHERS

**1910s**
- Microutsicos Bros. from NY donated $100 to start Greek school in 1917.

**1920s**
- Paraskevi Lakovidis
- Angeliki Kalantzis
- Evyenia Golfinopoulos
- Stylianos Pavlou
- J. Liapis
- G. Moustakidou
- Konst. Papakallikou
- Athanasios Pantopoulos
- Demetrios Mitakos
- Panagiotis Christou

**1930s**
- Athanasios Aggelidis
- Theodosios Mylonides
- Demetrios Katramados
- Thomas Papadopoulos

**1940s**
- Stylianos Apostolopoulos
- George Karandreou
- Stefanos Petrakis
- George Petrakis
- Leandros Papakostas
- Titos Seligardakis

**1950s**
- George Petrakis
- Helen Pliskos
- Basil Galzaros (also taught History at Reading High School)
- Stanley Koutroulelis (later entered the priesthood)
- Helen Galiatsatos

**1960s**
- James Leliberte (later entered the priesthood and served at St. Herman's)
- Christos Efstathiou (later entered the priesthood)
- Areti Vougamalis (graduate of St. Basil Academy in Garrison, NY; also served as church secretary)

**1970s**
- Patricia (Kraras) Tsitouras
- Pat Markou
- Ourania Anastasiadis
- Maria Karithraka
- Presbytera Giannaris
- Filipia Zeppos

**1980s**
- Marika Krallis
- Filipia Zeppos
- Despina Yianoulis
- Lisa Kallis
- Sophia Tzinis

**1990s**
- Sophia Tzinis
- Kostas Tzinis
- Ourania Anastasiadis
- Filipia Zeppos
- Anastasia Mavreles

**2000s**
- Anastasia Mavreles
- Carnation Karros
- Fotini Tzinis
- Esther Ganas-Miranda
- Sophia Tzinis

**2010s**
- Fotini Tzinis
- Esther Ganas-Miranda
- Sophia Tzinis

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS

Amegange, Fotis
Antonnellos, Kristina (Petris)
Antonnellos, Rhea (Hatzistavrakis)
Apsokardou, George
Arnidis, Foty
Arnidis, James
Asimakopoulos, George
Asimakopoulos, Peter
Bankes, Helen (George)
Bankes, William
Barakos, Vasiliki
Barakos, Xeni
Barakos, Yianni
Baxewanis, John
Beighley, Alexia
Beighley, Claudia
Bona, Alexander
Bona, Evangelia
Bona, Marilena
Bratiotis, Fr. George
Caloiero, Marianthi (Panos)
Cammarano, Angel (Kraras)
Carasquillo, James
Cheri, Marian
Chondris, Maria (Gasparis)
Clauser, Maria
Clauser, Panayiotis
Conrad, Christine (Lountzis)
Constan, Pauline (Thomas)
Crassas, Maria (Elliker)
Dachowski, Alaina
Daglis, Peter
Dalaveris, Dr. Louis
Damore, Maria (Flamporis)
Damore, James
Damore, Olivia
Daniels, Cathy
Daniels, Lee
Daniels, Tina
Dantos, Demetri
Davlantes, Irene (Fournaris)
Deligiannis, Eleni
Deligiannis, Georgine
Denne, Despina (Ioannidis)
Dialectos, Athan
Dialectos, Harry
Dialectos, Jocelyn
Dialectos, Karissa
Dialectos, Mary (Zervanos)
Dimitriou, Harry
Donahue, Bern
Donahue, Stavanna
Donahue, Tula (Kraras)
Doukas, Effie L.
Doukas, Mary L.
Doukas, Oiabella
Elliker, Stephen
Faust, Constantina
Faust, Maria (Limberiou)
Fernez, Jennifer (Pappalas)
Firilas, Anthony
Flamporis, Stavros
Fotiou, George
Frangakis, Anna
Frangakis, Isidoros
Futrick, Barbara (Koumaras)
Gallas, Athena
Gallas, Denise
Ganas, George L.
Ganas, Katherine (Thomas)
Ganas-Miranda, Esther
Gasparis, Dr. Milton
George, Frances
George, Jim
George, John
George, Theodore
Giannaris, Ioanna
Giannaris, Katie
Hansen, Argie (Perezous)
Hansen, Manolis
Hansen, Mia
Harris, Renie
Heckman, Athena
Heckman, Kevin
Heckman, Vincent
Helm, Austin
Helm, Grayson
Hunsicker, Marisa (Kraras)
Iliadis, Euaggelia
Iliadis, Kalliope
Ioannidi, John
Karahalias, Dennis
Karetas, George
Karetas, Mary (George)
Karros, Paraskevi
Karros, Markos
Karros, Nikoletta
Karros, Savinna
Kerr, Bella (Moutafis)
Kissinger, Elaine (Lountzis)
Kollintzas, Constantine
Kollintzas, Felicia
Kopala, Gabrielle
Kostomeris, Metaxia
Kotsakis, Aspasia (Panos)
Kotsakis, Constantine
Kotsakis, Dionisios
Kotsakis, Vasilios
Koumaras, George
Koumaras, Helen (Mavredes)
Kousoulides, Niki Ardinis
Koutalelis, Evriklia (Marmarou)
Koutroulelis, Leah
Koutroulelis, Stelios
Kovras, Esther (Marmarou)
Krallis, Anthony
Krallis, George
Krallis, Nicholas
Kraras, Ann (Baxewanis)
Kraras, Christ G.
Kraras, Christ J.
Kraras, Dean
Kreibel, Maria (Shunk)
Kunkleman, Matthew
Kunkleman, Melissa
Kunkleman, Melissa
Lahaniatis, Balasios
Lahaniatis, Dr. John
Lambriodes, George
Lambriodes, Stephen
Lambros, James
Lasky, Lillian George
Laletas, Helen James
Lecatsas, Chris
Lecatsas, Joyce
Lecatsas, Spiros
Lecatsas, Stavros
Lecatsas, Stephanie
Lecatsas, Steve
Limberiou, Angelo
Limberiou, Evan
Limberiou, George
Limberiou, Mia
Limberiou, Nick
Limberiou, Peter
Limberiou, Zoe
Lountzis, Andrew
Lountzis, John
Lountzis, Mary
Lountzis, Apostolos
Lountzis, Zachary
Manidis, John
Manning, Aphrodite (Thomas)
Marcandonis, Irene (Theodossiou)
Marmarou, Ariadne
Marmarou, Euterpe
Marmarou, Evelyn
Marmarou, Georgia
Marmarou, John
Marmarou, Rallia
Marmarou, Steve Sr.
Mavredes, Constantine
Mavredes, Mike
McNeil, Kendall
McNeil, Jasmine
Medaglia, Vanessa
Midouhas, Alex
Miranda, Angeliki
Monos, Alexia
Monos, Olivia
Morris, Stella (Sianis)
Moutafis, George
Moyer, Kathy (Thomas)
Nicholas, Dr. Peter D.
Nicholas, Dr. James D.
Noll, Anastasia (Orphanos)
Orphanos, Nick
Ott, Elaine (Nicholas)
Panos, Euripides
Panousis, Louise (Fotiou)
Papadakis, Cecilia
Papademetriou, Alexander Spyros
Papademetriou, Metaxia

*(Continued on next page)*

# OUR GREEK SCHOOL

## PAST AND PRESENT GREEK SCHOOL STUDENTS

Pappalas, Peter
Pappalas, Renee
Pappas, Evan
Pappas, Mimi
Pappas, Nikki
Paraskis, Constantina (Marmarou)
Patton, Mary (Firilas)
Pehlivanidis, Kathy (Petris)
Pendos, Anastasia
Perezous, John
Perezous, Sophia
Perezous, Theodore
Petrakis, Cynthia (Kousoulidis)
Petrakis, Frankie
Petrakis, Nysia
Petrakis, Steve
Petrakis, Ty
Phyrillas, Anastasis
Phyrillas, Maria
Phyrillas, James
Phyrillas, Tony
Platanos, Christopher
Platanos, Despina (Gasparis)
Platanos, Felicia
Platanos, Stathi
Pollet, Marissa (Stephenson)
Polyak, Alexia
Polyak, Evan
Polyak, Fani (Sotos)
Porcaro, Alexa
Porcaro, Christopher
Porcaro, Nicholas
Psaros, Helen (Arnidis)
Robitzer, Haralambos
Saravanos, Maria (Zeppos)
Sariano, Thekla (Karahalias)
Savadelis, MaryAnn
Scantzos, Alexander
Scantzos, Demetri
Schlageter, Demetri
Schlageter, Konstantina
Schmalzer, Jenna (Platanos)
Seremetis, Alcmene
Shunk, Bryant
Sianis, Christ
Simotas, Niko
Simotas, Zachary
Simotas, Zoe
Siozos, Chrisovalantis
Siozos, Nickolaos
Sotos, Eleni
Sotos, George
Stephenson, Daniel
Stephenson, Margaret (Laletas)
Sterious, Chris
Sterious, Eleni
Stevens, Anastasia
Stratis, Fotini (Tzinis)
Sweigart, Alinda
Sweigart, Anthony
Sweigart, Jamie
Sweigart, Thanna
Theodossiou, John
Thomas, George P.
Thomas, James P.
Thomas, John P.
Thomas, Paul P.
Thomas, William P.
Toma, Gabriella
Toma, Michael
Tomeo, Maria Verros
Tripolitis, John
Tripolitis, Linda
Tsakeris, James
Tsakeris, Michael
Tsakeris, Stan
Tsakeris, Steve
Tzinis, Haralambos
Tzinis, Irene
Vardaxis, Christos
Vardaxis, Rallia
Vlassis, Florence (Mavredes)
Wagner, Chris
Wagner, David
Wagner, Jackson
Wagner, Maria
Weidner, Joanne (Marmarou)
Werle, Alexandra
Wesner, Margaret (George)
Whitman, Sharon (Bankes)
Yannaris, Alex
Yannaris, Paul
Yatron, George
Yianoulis, Despina
Zaffary, Christ
Zaffary, Nicholas
Zaffary, Peter
Zaharis, Catherine
Zdunowski, Amy
Zdunowski, Stella
Zeppos, Alekos George
Zeppos, Christopher
Zeppos, Demosthenis Anastasios
Zeppos, Demosthenis Alex
Zeppos, George Alex
Zervanos, Chris J.
Zervanos, Evan
Zervanos, Hariklia (Fournaris)
Zervanos, Joyce Baxewanis)
Zervanos, Michael S.
Zervanos, Sandra (Sianis)
Zervanos, Stam

# OUR PARISH COUNCIL

## 2014 PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

***FRONT ROW:*** Gust Kraras, Nicholas D. Karetas, Charles Mowbray, Deacon James Elliker, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Artie Fecera, Michael Mavreles, Harry Dialectos; ***SECOND ROW:*** Tony Phyrillas, Kim Shunk, Athan Dialectos, Stratton Marmarou, Anthony Koumaras, Connie Fecera, Angel Helm.

## 2014 PARISH COUNCIL

**Protopresbyters**
Fr. Tom Pappalas, Proistamenos
Fr. Spyridon Papademetriou, Assistant Priest

Deacon James Elliker

**President**
Artie Fecera

**Vice-President**
Chuck Mowbray

**Secretary**
Tony Phyrillas

**Financial Secretary**
Nicholas Karetas

**Treasurer**
Mike Mavreles

**Council Members**
Athan Dialectos
Harry Dialectos
Connie Fecera
Angel Helm
Gus Kotsakis
Anthony Koumaras
Gust Kraras
Strat Marmarou
Frank T. Petrakis
Kim Shunk

# OUR PARISH COUNCIL

## PAST AND PRESENT PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

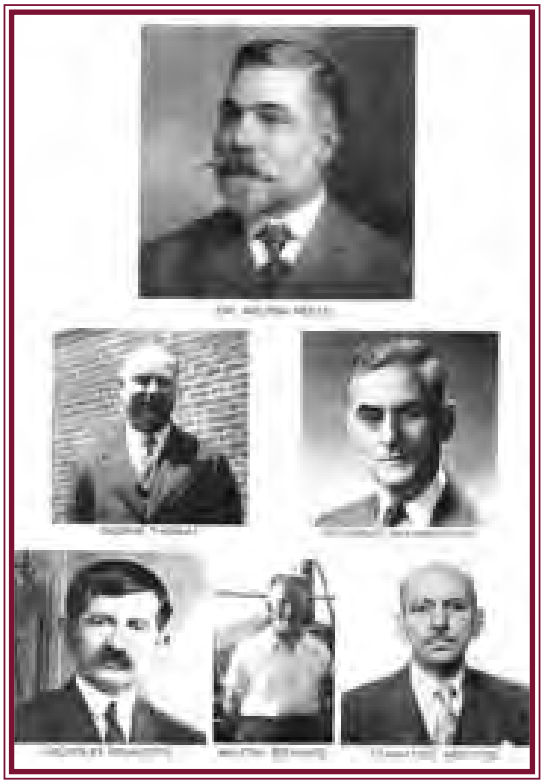
***FRONT ROW:*** Gust Kraras, Tony Phyrillas, Harry Dialectos, Deacon James Elliker, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Artie Fecera, Steve Lecatsas, Dr. Stamatis Zervanos, Peter Xavios; ***SECOND ROW:*** Christ G. Kraras, Leon Miller, Mike Koumaras, John Ioannidi, Despina Yianoulis, Stratton Marmarou, James Tsakeris, Connie Fecera, Angel Helm, Mike Chaknos, Anthony Koumaras; ***THIRD ROW:*** Nicholas D. Karetas, David Campbell, Mark Dialectos, Christos Dikos, Kim Shunk, Frank Petrakis, Athan Dialectos, Chuck Mowbray, Mike Mavreles, Evan Lambros, George Limberiou, Phil Macaronis.

# OUR PARISH COUNCIL

## PAST COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

***FRONT ROW:*** Dr. Gust Zogas, Harry Dialectos, Artie Fecera, Protopresbyter Thomas Pappalas, Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou, Gust Kraras, Dr. Stamatis Zervanos; ***BACK ROW:*** Steve Lecatsas, Deacon James Elliker, Anthony Phyrillas, John Ioannidi, Christ G. Kraras.

## OUR FIRST PARISH COUNCIL • 1913-1920



# OUR PARISH COUNCIL

In the over 100 years of existence, our Church Community has been governed by what we call today the Parish Council. Originally, they were called in Greek "το Διοικητικον Συμβούλιον» (Governing Council). In legal papers it was referred to as the "Board of Directors" and occasionally "Board of Trustees." For many years now, it is called by its official name, "The Parish Council."

"The Parish Council shall consist of the Priest, as the head of the Parish, and a number of elected lay members fixed by the Parish Bylaws, according to the needs of the Parish. The Parish Council is responsible to the Parish Assembly and to the respective Hierarch for conducting all Parish affairs in keeping with the mission, aims and purposes of the Church as set forth in the Charter and these Regulations" *(From the Archdiocese Regulations)*

The mission of the Parish Council is… "to keep, practice and proclaim the Orthodox Christian Faith pure and undefiled". *(ibid)*

The number of members in the Parish Council varied throughout the years. Originally, five men were elected, then increased to seven, then nine; presently, there are fifteen men and women serving as members of the Parish Council for a period of two years.

## DUTIES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

- Assist the Priest in the administration of the affairs and ministries of the Parish
- Establish the appropriate committees, including but not limited to Stewardship, Finance, Fundraising, Planning and Real Estate committees
- Utilize the Stewardship material provided by the Archdiocese to implement and expand the Parish Stewardship program and ministries
- Prepare budgets for the Parish's administration and ministries and collect the revenue of the Parish
- Provide for the Priest's remuneration and benefits in accordance with the Clergy Compensation Plan of the Archdiocese
- Provide financing for the salaries of the Parish personnel
- Provide financial resources for the Parish's administration and for the Parish's spiritual, educational and other ministries and expenses
- Buy, sell or mortgage Parish property, subject to the approval of the Parish Assembly and the provisions of these Regulations
- Provide for payments and assessments for support of the Archdiocese as fixed by the Congresses
- Submit to the respective Hierarch and the Archdiocese, at the end of each year, the financial statement of the Parish for that year (certified by the Parish's Board of Auditors) and the Parish budget for the ensuing year
- Submit annual Parish profile reports that may be required by the Archdiocese and the respective Archdiocesan District/Metropolis
- Adhere to the Charter, the Regulations and decisions promulgated at the Congresses

# OUR PARISH COUNCIL

## PAST AND PRESENT PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Anderson, Harold
Angelou, Elias
Apostolopoulos, Stelios
Apostolou, Spiro
Apsokardu, Efstratios
Apsokardu, George
Apsokardu, Stelios
Architas, Hercules
Architas, Stamatios
Arnides, Constantine
Arones, Helen
Assemes, Louis
Bankes, Donald
Baxewanis, George
Baxewanis, James
Baxewanis, John
Baxewanis, William
Bithas, Socrates
Calludis, John
Campbell, David
Capiotes, Milton
Capiotis, Gust
Chaknos, Mike
Chubacos, Harry
Chupak, Daniel
Comins, Gus
Contos, Constantine
Conzaman, Mike
Cook, Thomas
Daniels, Louis
Dantos, Nicholas
Dastra, Anthony
Deligiannis, Hippocrates
Demopoulos, Dimitrios
Dialectos, Athan
Dialectos, Harry
Dialectos, Mark
Dikos, Chris
Dimitriou, Manny
Doukas, Stelios
Drakoulis, James
Efstathiou, Nicholas
Efstratiades, Theodore
Eleftheriou, Peter
Elliker, James
English, Eugenia
English, John
English, Nicholas
Exarhakos, Peter
Exas, Dean
Exas, John
Exas, Mary
Exas. George
Fecera, Artie
Fecera, Connie
Firilas, Michael
Flamporis, James
Fotiou, George
Fournaris, Nicholas
Fry, Lena
Gabriel, George
Gallas, James
Ganas, Christ (Dr.)
Gatzouris, James
Gatzouris, Milton
George, Alex
George, Peter
Georgeadis, James
Giovanis, George
Graham, Nick
Grammaticas, Efthimios
Grammaticas, James
Halulakos, John
Halulakos, Nicholas
Hatzas, Augustus
Hatzigianakis, Christ
Heckman, George
Helm, Angel
Hollis, Milton (Dr.)
Ioannidi, John
Ioannidis, Andreas
Kanel, Steve
Kanelopoulos, Athanasios
Kanios, Nicholas
Karahalias, Dennis
Karathanasis, Anthony
Karatzoglou, Kiriakos
Karetas, Nick
Kavounas, Stelios
Kompotiates, Nick
Kontaxes, Nicholas
Kopteros, John
Kordopatis, Nicholas
Kotsakis, Constantine
Koumaras, Anthony
Koumaras, George
Koumaras, Michael
Koumaras, Stratton
Kouraios, Argirios
Koursaros, Harry
Koursaros, Nicholas
Koutroulelis, George
Krallis, Anthony
Kraras, Christ G.
Kraras, Christ J.
Kraras, Gust
Kraras, John
Kratsas, Icaros
Lambros, Costas
Lambros, Evan
Lambros, Steve
Lampros, Argirios
Lampros, George
Lampros, Nicholas
Lasky, Joseph
Lecatsas, Spiro
Lecatsas, Stanley
Lecatsas, Steve
Limberiou, George
Liopiros, James
Lountzis, Paul
Macaronis, Nick
Macaronis, Philip
Mantis, Constantine
Mappas, James
Marmarou, George
Marmarou, Nicholas
Marmarou, Stratton
Martin, Tony
Matzouranis, Emmanuel
Mavreles, Mike
Mavrides, Gust
Miller, Leon
Mitrelias, Andrew
Moliatu, George
Monos, Augustus
Morris, Nicholas
Morris, Sam
Mowbray, Chuck
Myros, Constantine
Nikolopoulos, Vasilios
Odagis, Andrew
Orphanos, Ernie
Orphanos, Nick
Pallis, Fanis
Pantazis, George
Pantelis, Michael
Papadakis, William
Papadopoulos, George
Papagrigoriou, Vasilios
Pappas, Aspasia
Pappas, George Dr.
Pappas, George A.
Papson, Christalla
Paraskis, Therapon
Pasayotis, Nicholas
Paskopoulos, Efthimios
Paskopoulos, George (Dr.)
Paskos, Peter
Patsourakos, Spiro
Patton, George
Patton, Spiro
Perezous, Emmanuel
Petrakis Frank T.
Petrakis, Frank
Petrakis, Stephen
Pettis, Christ
Pettis, George (Dr.)
Phyrillas, Tony
Psaradelis, Anthony
Psilelis, Ignatios
Rentos, George
Salakos, Nicholas
Sarantes, Christ
Seremetis, Stelios
Sevastpoulos, Christ
Shunk, Kim B.
Sianis, Christ
Sianis, James
Sianis, William
Skias, Theodoere
Skoufalos, James
Skoufalos, Pantelis
Sophianos, Gus
Sophianos, Louis
Sophianos, Milton
Stavrides, Christ
Sterganos, James
Theodore, Ann
Thomas, George
Thomas, Peter
Thomas, William P.
Tripolitis, George
Tsakeris, James
Valaske, Emmanuel
Vareltzis, Efstratios
Varris, Nicholas
Vastardis, Louis
Vlachos, Peter
Wagner, Athena
Wornas, Christian (Dr.)
Wornas, Nicholas
Xavios, Nicholas
Xavios, Peter
Yatron, Paul
Yatron, Peter
Yianoulis, Despina
Zanas, William
Zegianis, Stamatios
Zeppos, Alex
Zervanos, Alex
Zervanos, James
Zervanos, John
Zervanos, Stamatis
Zogas, Gust
Zogas, Harry

# WILLIAM PENN CHAPTER NO. 61 ORDER OF AHEPA

## CURRENT MEMBERS OF AHEPA

***FRONT ROW:*** Harry Dialectos, Gust Kraras, Alex Simotas, Gus Kotsakis, Fr. Spyridon Papademetriou, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Dr. George J. Giovanis, Bernie Donahue, Dean Whitman, William Sianis, Harry Pappas, Artie Fecera; ***SECOND ROW:*** Jordan Zanetis, Alex Zeppos, Christopher Wagner, John Lountzis, Dean Kraras, John Ioannidi, Nicholas D. Karetas, Tony Phyrillas, Michael Macaronis, Allen Seibert, Nicholas Krallis; ***THIRD ROW:*** Stavros Koumaras, Calin Sasaran, James Rohm, Evan Lambros, Steve Lecatsas, Nicholas S. Karetas, Leon Miller, John Halulakos, William Sakellaropoulos, Stratton Marmarou, Peter Zeppos, Stephen Mavreles, Michael Mavreles, George D. Zeppos, John Frangakis; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Anthony Koumaras, Charles Mowbray, Dr. Stamatis Zervanos, Nicholas Lambros, Andrew Cammarano, Evan Zervanos, George Yatron, Frank Petrakis, Chris Kraras, Kim Shunk, Dr. Christ Ganas, Dr. James Pace, Athan Dialectos, Christos Dikos, Scott Helm, Spiro Phyrillas, Philip Macaronis, George Barakos, Jason Hornberger, John Rohm.

# HISTORY OF WILLIAM PENN CHAPTER NO. 61 OF AHEPA

The William Penn Chapter No. 61 of the Order of AHEPA was organized by one of the founders of the Order, the late George Polos. Mr. Polos came to Reading in the early months of 1925, and spent several weeks talking to Reading-area Greeks about the AHEPA and initiated the first group into the Order. On March 16, 1925, he initiated another group of 18. Twenty-five of these brothers signed the petition on May 2, 1925, asking the "Supreme Council of AHEPA," as it was then known, to grant them a charter. The Reading AHEPA Chapter was the sixth one organized in Pennsylvania.

In 1926, the first major banquet was sponsored by the Chapter and among the dignitaries attending were Reading Mayor William Sherman, Berks County Judge John D. Shaffer, and Superintendent of Schools E.M. Rapp. Another banquet was held in 1928 with Robert Birch as toastmaster, and among those attending were Mayor J. Henry Stump, Rev. Miller, and Congressman Charles J. Esterly.

In 1933, the Chapter was host to the District Convention, and just prior to the Convention, the Reading Times published a glowing editorial on July 10, 1933, praising the AHEPA.

Now came the Chapter's golden years. With capable men assuming the leadership, the respect for the AHEPA grew; many activities of all kinds were held, and many more joined the Order. The AHEPA Patrol was organized and, under the leadership of the late Peter Eleftheriou, won many awards including first prize in Easton's 50th anniversary parade. The AHEPA Greek Award was established and was given every year to a student of Albright College who excelled in the studies of Greek.

Then came World War II. Many members of the Order served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Some were wounded in combat, but all eventually returned with honorable discharges to rejoin their Chapter. The Chapter participated in the AHEPA drive to sell War Bonds and, as a result, the entire Order was commended by the U.S. Government for the millions of dollars of War Bonds that they sold.

In 1946, when Sts. Constantine and Helen Church bought the building at 8th and Court Streets, and moved the Church facilities there, the Chapter donated the cost of the Iconostation (Icon Screen). The cost of the Iconostation was $1,835.00, and this was at a time when Chapter dues were $6.00 per year, and Church dues were $12.00 per year. When the present Church was built in 1970, that Iconostation was taken apart, brought over to the new Church and re-assembled, and was used until the present new Iconostation was installed in 1995. Some parts of the old Iconostation are now in the church's Heritage room.

On May 5, 1957, the Chapter hosted a banquet honoring President Judge H. Robert Mays and Judge Marks on their retirement that year. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court was the main speaker.

In 1959, the Chapter entered in an agreement with the Church to rent the old Greek School building at 734 Walnut Street in Reading for $500.00 per year for its headquarters. Although this was a commendable effort to provide a home for the Chapter, it later proved to the downfall of the Chapter and almost caused its extinction. Of course, the division of the church that took place about that same time aggravated the situation.

In 1974 the Chapter was re-organized and many new members were initiated, old members re-instated, and became very active. One of the members, Michael Firilas, was elected to the office of District Governor of Power District No. 4. In 1978, the Chapter hosted the District Convention with many city, county and state officials attending the formal District Banquet on June 17th.

The Chapter enjoyed another renaissance from the mid-1980s to the mid-1990s, hosting another successful District Convention in 1988, establishing the first Chapter Scholarship Fund and winning recognition from Power District No. 4 for the initiation of most new members and reinstatement of past members. Chapter membership peaked at 80. The Chapter sent full delegations to District and National AHEPA Conventions throughout this 10-year period. Several chapter members served on the District Lodge and one member, Michael Firilas, was elected Supreme Governor. Michael Firilas was also named 1991 AHEPAN of the Year by Power District No. 4. The Chapter also held several successful Banquets in honor of U.S. Congressman Gus Yatron (a longtime member of the AHEPA) and the two pastors who served the Greek Orthodox Churches in Reading.

As financial scandals rocked the national AHEPA during the mid-1990s, membership declined and the Reading Chapter, like many others, fell into a period of dormancy.

In 2010, there was a new effort to bring back the glory days of AHEPA that was initiated by Gust C. Kraras, Past President of the Chapter and a Past District Governor of the Fifth AHEPA District. He and his son, Christ, hosted several meetings inviting many past Ahepans to give their input as to how we might reconvene and resurrect the AHEPA Chapter. At their suggestion, it was agreed that Dr. George Giovanis would be elected the first President of the new Chapter effort, and he accepted the position. From that point, Brother Giovanis took the initiative with his tremendous drive and enthusiasm; he brought the Chapter to new heights and a record in membership. The Chapter is now well on its way to reaching the glorious days of old.

The Chapter re-instituted the Annual AHEPA Day in our Church. The day includes a Memorial Service for all our departed Brothers, a Social in the Church on that day, and also a Booklet with all the names of the departed Brothers, the present Chapter Officers, and the present membership that is handed out to all Parishioners. In collaboration with the local St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, the Chapter organized a very successful Christmas Party for the children of our community in 2011, with about 250 children and adults attending. Also, a new idea was put into practice of holding regular dinner meetings at Reading-area restaurants, where the Brothers can enjoy each other's company socially, as true AHEPANS.

An annual AHEPA Golf Tournament was organized, bringing the brothers together for a game of golf, and their families joining them for a casual picnic social afterwards. The event was eventually named in honor of our late Brother AHEPAN Ernie Orphanos, who organized the first tournament and chaired the event for several years as Athletic Director. Another annual event is the AHEPA Scholarship Banquet which awards college scholarships to three local high school students.

By the end of 2013, chapter membership topped 100, making William Penn Chapter 61 one of the largest AHEPA chapters in Pennsylvania.

*—Compiled by Gust Kraras and Tony Phyrillas*

## CURRENT MEMBERS OF WILLIAM PENN CHAPTER NO. 61 ORDER OF AHEPA

Antonellos, Antonios
Antonellos, Leonidas
Apostolou, Spiro
Barakos, George
Barakos, Yanni
Caloiero, Salvatore
Cammarano, Andrew
Chaknos, Mark
Chaknos, Michael
Chaknos, William
Dialectos, Athan
Dialectos, Harry
Dialectos, Jodan
Dialectos, Mark
Dikos, Christos
Donahue, Bernard
Doukas, George
Fecera, Arthur
Fecera, Chris
Fernez, Jarett
Frangakis, John
Futick, Alan
Ganas, Dr. Christ
Georgeadis, James
Giorgi, Peter
Giovanis, Dr. George
Grassley, Terry
Halulakos, John
Hanna, Lawrence
Helm, Scott
Hornberger, Jason
Ioannidi, John
Kallis, Gregory
Karahalias, Dennis
Karetas, Nicholas
Karetas, Nicholas S.
Koch, Brian
Kotsakis, Constantine
Kotsakis, Dionisios
Kotsakis, Dionisios C.
Kotsakis, Vasilios
Koumaras, Anthony
Koumaras, Stavros
Krallis, Nicholas
Kraras, Christ
Kraras, Constantine
Lambros, Evan
Lambros, Nicholas
Lawrence, Shane
Lecatsas, Steve
Lentz, Andrew
Lountzis, John
Macaronis, Michael
Macaronis, Philip
Mara, Bernard
Mavreles, Michael
Mavreles, Stephen
Marmarou, Stratton
Medaglia, Lawrence
Miller, Leon
Miller, Michael
Maoury, Andrew
Mowbray, Charles
Noll, John
Pace, Dr. James
Panagacos, Richard
Pappas, Harry
Petrakis, Frank
Petrakis, Frank T.
Petris, Anthony
Phyrillas, Spyros
Phyrillas, Tony
Platanos, Christopher
Reeser, Jeremy
Rohm, James
Rohm, John
Sakellaropoulos, William
Sasaran, Calin
Scantzos, Lazaros
Seibert, Allen
Shunk, Kim
Sianis, William
Simotas, Alex
Skyllas, Grant
Sterious, Chris
Szczawinski, Brian
Tripolitis, John
Vlastos, Michael
Wagner, Christopher
Whitman, Dean
Xavios, Peter
Yatron, George
Zaffary, Christ
Zanetis, Jordan
Zeppos, Aleko
Zeppos, Alex
Zeppos, George A.
Zeppos, George D.
Zeppos, Peter
Zervanos, Evan
Zervanos, Michael
Zervanos, Stamatis
Zervanos, Stephen
Zogas, Dr. Gust

## CURRENT AHEPA OFFICERS

*Chapter President:* Dr. George J. Giovanis
*Chapter Vice-President:* Christopher Wagner
*Chapter Financial Secretary:* Dean C. Kraras
*Chapter Corresponding Secretary:* Dean Whitman
*Chapter Treasurer:* Tony Phyrillas

*Board of Governors:*
Dr. Christ Ganas
Frank T. Petrakis
Dr Stam Zervanos
Michael Chaknos
Christ G. Kraras

*Appointed Officers:*
Alex Simotas, Captain of the Guard
John Tripolitis, Chaplain
Bernard Donahue, Warden
Michael Macaronis, Sentinel & Co-Athletic Director
Philip Macaronis, Co-Athletic Director

# WILLIAM PENN CHAPTER NO. 61 ORDER OF AHEPA

## IN MEMORIAM

Agathakos, George
Agourides, Dr. Nicholas
*Aivanzis, Peter
Alexandoris, Spiros S.
Angelos, Elias
Angelos, Jack
Anthony, George
Anthony, Socrates
Anthony, Stanley
Anthony, Stelios
Antipas, George
Antonakos, Nicholas
Antoniou, George
Apostolatou, Vasilios
Apostolopoulos, Stylianos
Apsokardu, George
Arabian, Gabriel
*Architas, Hercules N.
Architas, Michael
*Architas, Stamatios
*Arthour, Steve
Aslanides, Gabriel
Assemes, Louis
Athanasiades, Dimetrios
Athanasopulos, Mike
Bakatsas, James
Bankes, Donald
Barell, Peter
Bassis, Nick
Baxewanis, George
Baziotes, Christos
Baziotes, William
Beard, John A.
Billys, Charles
Bithas, Augustus
Bithas, William J.
Boyer, Anthony
Brown, George
*Calfaxis, James
Calludis, John
*Calodises, Constantine T.
Capiotis, Gus
Capiotis, Milton
Carathanasis, Anthony N.
Carley, George
Carley, John A.
*Carnolas, Thomas P.
*Carpousis, Agamemnon
Carpousis, James
Carteris, James
Cassimates, Andrew
Catris, James
Catsantonis, Anthony
Chaknos, Gus
Chirafides, Angelos
Chires, Mike
Colivas, Constantine (Gus)
Coltsides, Christ
Condos, Mike
Contogiannis, Vasilios
*Contos, C.H.
*Contos, Christ
Contos, Louis
Contos, Richard E.
Cosmitis, Stylianos
Cranas, Christ
Daburlos, Peter
Dalas, Peter
Danas, Andrew
Daniel, Louis
Daniel, Theodore E.
Davis, Louis
Davis, Michael
Delidakis, Christ
Delidakis, Nicholas
Dementis, Gust
Demetre, John A.
Demetriou, An.
Dermenoutsos, Stavros
Dialectos, George
Dill, Carl Hans
Dikos, Stergios
Dimas, Thomas P.
Dimitriou, Emmanuel
Doganes, Charles
Doganes, George E.
Doganes, George K.
Doganes, James Peter
Doganes, Peter
Dolas, Peter (Theodore)
Doukas, Stelios
Dracoules, James
Drouselis, Christopher
Dumas, Kostas
Eisenbrown, Joseph Ditlow
Eleftheriou, Panagiotis J.
Eliades, Christ
Eliades, Mike
Eliopoulos, Nicholas D.
Englezopoulos, James
*Englezopoulos, John
Esterly, Charles J.
Exarhakos, George
Exarhakos, John
Exarhakos, Peter
Fanaras, Ignatius
Fantis, Thomas
Fappas, Savas
Fininis, Aristoteles
Fisher, Lewis
Flampouris, Steve
*Foster, John D.
Fotis, Peter
Fournaris, Nick
Frangos, Nicholas D.
Ftaclas, Mike Christ
Gadonas, Christ
Gallas, Steve
Gallas, Xenophon
Ganas, Louis
Garnier, Peter
George, Peter
Geras, Anthony
Geras, James
Gianelis, Elias
Gianikos, Gregory
*Giannacopoulos, George J.
Gianopolos, Dr. Spero
Golfinopoulos, John
Golfinopoulos, Paul
Gouminis, Peter
Gournas, Nicholas P.
Govatos, George
Govatos, Peter A.
Grammaticas, Efthimios
Grammaticas, James P.
Gregoriou, Constantine
Grimes, William D.
Hac, Borys
Hadjoudis, Sam
*Harris, John E.
*Hatjillas, Louis
Hatzoudis, Socrates
Heller, Harry
Hemrich, Louis
Houda, Harry
Hydiannis, Christodoulos
Johns, Gus
Kailinos, Constantine S.
Kalantzopoulos, John
*Kalfas, Charles D.
Kalodikis,
Kanel, Steve
Karabelas, Peter
Karahalias, Peter
Karalis, John
Karetas, Alexander
Karetas, Angelo
Karetas, Efstathios
Karetas, Harry
Karithracas, Vassilios
Karthopatos, John
Katavassilis, Christofes
Katsafanas, Constantine
Katsantonis, James
Katsarides, George
Kauris, Dr. H.
Kavounas, Nicholas
Kavounas, Stelios
Keller, George
Kilakis, George
Kledaras, Peter
Kleoudis, Andrew
Klonis, Peter
Klonis, Thomas
Koitsanos, Nick
Kokalis, George
Kolidas, James
Komes, John
Komis, George
Komninos, Lycourgos
Kontaxes, Nick
Kontis, Charles
*Kopitas, George
Koucoulis, Demetrios
Koukoulis, Gust
Kourembeles, James
Koursaros, Nick
Kousouledis, Christ
Koutalelis, Dimitrios
Kozonis, Constantine M.
Krallis, George
Kranis, Augustus
Kraras, Christ
Kraras, Christ J.
*Kraras, John
Kypreos, Emanuel An.
Lambros, Steve
Lampros, Andrew
*Lampros, Avargyros
Lampros, George
Lampros, Nick
Lampros, Spyros
Lappas, George
Lebaris, Stephen
Lecatsas, Spiro
Lecatsas, Stanley
Limberiou, Ted
Limnaios, Efstratios
Lingeris, James
Lingeris, Michael
*Lingeris, Paul
Lingeris, Peter
Liopiros, James
Logovitis, George P.
Lorraine, Nick M.
Losidis, A.
Lountzis, Nicholas
Lountzis, Sr., John
Macaronis, Nicholas
Macrides, Mavrodes
Makros, Harry
Malannis, Nicholas

*(Continued on next page)*

# WILLIAM PENN CHAPTER NO. 61 ORDER OF AHEPA

## IN MEMORIAM

Mandate, Ignatios
Mandolos, Gust
Manolakeles, Demitrios P.
Mantis, Christ
Mantis, Constantine M.
Mantis, James
*Mantis, Nick
Mantis, Theodore
Mappas, James
Marks, George J.
Marmarou, Nicholas
Marmarou, William
Martin, John
Martin, Peter
Massos, Stratos P.
Mathews, Gus
Matsoukas, Michael
Mavrides, Constantinos
Melaineos, Theodore G.
Mentis, Christ
Metacos, James
Mike, Peter
Morris, Constantine
Morris, Peter
*Morris, Sam
Mylonas, Andrew George
*Neofotistos, Peter
Nicholas, Charles
Nicholas, Christ
Nicholas, Harry
Nicholas, James
Nicholas, Stratton
Nicolau, Gust
Ninfo, Augustus
Odages, Peter
Orphanos, Ernest
*Pannousis, Sam
Panos, Kostantinos
Pantazis, Theodore
Pantelis, Michael
Papp, Constantine G.
Pappadakes, Vasilios
Pappageorges, Vasilios
Pappas, Alex
*Pappas, George
Pappas, George
Pappas, Peter
Pappas, Andrew J.
Pappas (Pappageorge), James
Papson, Alex
Paraskevules, Timoleon
Paraskilis, Paul
Paraskis, Therapon
*Pasayiotis, George N.
Pasayiotis, Thomas
Paskopoulos, Dr. George
Paskopoulos, Peter
Paskos, Andrew
Paskos, Constantine E.
Paskos, Peter
*Patsos, Alexios
*Pazaras, Bill
Perlos, James
Perry, Michael
Petrakis, George
Petrakis, James
Petrakis, Soterios
Petrakis, Stephen F.
Petrakis, Tassos
Petredes, Stavros
Petropoulos, John
Pettis, Dr. George
Phyrillas, Anastasios
Polites, George J.
Prodromos, Sotirios
Psaradelis, Anthony
Reesta, Spero
Rellis, Nick E.
Rentos, George J.
Roskopoulos, E.
Sarangoulis, Christ
Sarantacos, Anastasios
Savadelis, Ignatius
*Scoufis, Panagiotis D.
Sebekos, James
Sebekos, William J.
Seidel, Sr., Calvin E.
Seremetis, Stelios
Sevast, William
Sevast , Basil
Sevastopulos, Christos
Sevastopulos, George P.
Shugars, Joseph Paul
Sianis, Costas
Sianis, James
Simos, Paul
Skarlatos, Peter
Skias, Theodore C.
Skinas (Schinas), William
Skoufalos, George
Skoufalos, Pantelis
Sofianopoulos, Louis
Sofianos, Louis S.
Spirelis, Gust
Spiros, Tom
Stamatiades, Andreas S.
Stavrides, Christ
Stavropoulos, George
Stenson, George
Stevens, Mike
Stilianos, Michael
Teichman, Raymon E.
Tellis, John
Theologos, John
Thiamegos, Stratis
Thomas, Costa
Thomas, Elias G.
Thomas, George
Thomas, Thomas
Tombros, John G.
Toulas, James
Tountas, James
*Triantafillou, Michael
Triantafillow, Vasilios
Tripolitis, George
Tsirigos, Constantinos
Tutlane, George
Vaerlis, Nichols
Vamvoudakis, Emmanuel
Varish, Augustus
*Varris, Nick
Varvatsoulis, William
*Vassios, Anastasios
Vastardis, Louis
Venizelos, Louis G.
Vlahos, Peter C.
Williams, James
Wornas, Dr. Christian
Xanthopoulos, George
Xanthopoulos, Sophocles
Xavios, Nicholas P.
Yatron, George
Yatron, Gus
Zaffary, James
Zaffary, Peter
Zaffary (Zafiriou), Peter
Zaharis, Harry
Zeppos, George
Zervanos, Alex J.
Zervanos, George D.
Zervanos, James A.
Zervanos, Michael
Zervos, George D.
Zoubantis, Antonios

**Charter Members – 1925*

## PAST AHEPA PRESIDENTS

C.H. Contos
Constantine Mantis
James Toulas
James Grammaticas
Louis Sofianos
George Pasayotis
George Thomas
John Kraras
Louis Daniels
William Sebecos
George Paskopoulos
George Govatos
Nick Lampros
Nick Rellis
Gust Kraras
Peter George
Louis Vastardis
Christ Ganas
Charles Billys
Thomas Boyer
Nick Kontaxes
Mike Firilas
Gus Capiotis
Peter Morris
Jim Zaffary
George Pappas
Gust Chaknos
Stanley Theodossiou
Gus Varish
William Sianis
Spiro Phyrillas
Strat Marmarou
Tony Phyrillas
George Giovanis

## THE CLERGY OF OUR PARISH

Deacon James Elliker, Protopresbyter Thomas Pappalas, Protopresbyter Spyridon Papademetriou.

## OUR ECCLESIARCHS

We are very fortunate in our Parish to have the services of dedicated individuals who love their Church and devote much time to it. For many years, Chris Carley has assumed the responsibility of seeing that everything is ready in the Altar for all Services. We are proud to hear from many visiting clergy that we have the cleanest and the most orderly Altar in the area. Gust Kraras is responsible overall for all the supplies needed for the different services including the vestments, the main Altar, the Chapel Altar, and preparation tables. He brings a crew in several times a year to press and change all the Altar vestments for the different ecclesiastical observances. He also sees that all liturgical books and other items are replaced as needed. James Rohm comes during the week to clean and shine everything. Alan Kachel assists Chris and supervises the Altar Boys.

***FRONT ROW:*** Christopher Carley, James Rohm, Deacon James Elliker, Father Thomas Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Alan Kachel, Gust C. Kraras.

## THE BYZANTINE CHOIR

On the first Sunday of each month and during the Summer months when our regular choirs aren't singing, a group of men and women chant the response under the direction of Presbytera Anne Pappalas.

***FRONT ROW:*** Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Father Thomas Pappalas, Deacon James Elliker, Rosemary Zaffary; ***SECOND ROW:*** Peter Giorgi, Karl Krohn, Evan Zervanos.

## OUR JUNIOR CHOIR

The Junior Choir, consisting of several very young people, is under the direction of Mrs. Maria Damore and chants the responses on special occasions and especially the Communion Hymns once a month. It also sings during the Sunday School Annual Christmas Pageant.

**2013-2014 JUNIOR CHOIR**

***FRONT ROW:*** Stavanna Donahue, Mackenzie Kraras, Eleni Sterious, Demetrios Schlageter, Niko Simotas, Sophia Perezous; ***SECOND ROW:*** Peyton Kraras, Constantina Schlageter, Amanda Tilley, J.T. Tilley, Maria Damore – Director; ***THIRD ROW:*** Deacon Jim Elliker, Father Thomas Pappalas, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Chrisovalantis Siozos, Gino Caloiero.

# THE CHANTERS OF OUR CHURCH

Because the Orthodox Church uses many thousands of Hymns and prayers throughout each year, there have always been men (and some women) who were trained in the intricacies of the different tones and music used in our Church Services. Pictured below are the present Chanters of our Church with Father Tom.

Gust Kraras started in our Psaltiri soon after he arrived in Reading upon his discharge from the U.S. Army in 1945. He has always volunteered in the Psaltiri for all the Services except for those years when he would be in Wildwood, NJ for his seasonal business and would chant at St. Demetrios Church in Wildwood. In recent years, he has been here for all the Services.

Presbytera Anne Pappalas leads the “Byzantine Group” who chant all the responses on the first Sunday of each month, and also assists in many other Services.

Rev. Deacon James Elliker takes part in the Chanting whenever he is not needed to assist in the Altar.

Evangelos Moutafis has been assisting in the Psaltiri in recent years except for spring and summer when he is away taking care of his business.

Jordan Zanetis is a recent graduate of our Theological School and is presently serving as our lay assistant and Chanter while preparing for the priesthood.

Gust C. Kraras, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Father Thomas Pappalas, Deacon James Elliker, Evangelos Moutafis, Jordan Zanetis.

The following list indicates past chanters and the years they were involved. Those who were also school teachers are so noted.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1916 | Paraskevas Lazos |
| 1916 | George Papatrintafilou |
| 1919 | F. Kanides |
| 1919 | Peter Elefteriou |
| 1919 | E. Marmarou |
| 1919 | M. Aivaliotis |
| 1919 | M. Mentzas |
| 1920 | Spiro Patsourakos |
| 1927 | Athanasios Pantopoulos* |
| 1932 | George Koutroulelis |
| 1935 | Athanasios Angelopoulos |
| 1935 | Theodoros Mylonides* |
| 1935 | Konstantinos Kourtelis* |
| 1938 | Thomas Papadopoulos* |
| 1944 | Ignatios Koutroulelis |
| 1944 | Demetrios Katramados* |

Following years are approximate:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1946 | Gust Kraras |
| 1950 | Vasilios Gantzaros* |
| 1950 | Stephen Petrakis |
| 1969 | Anastasios Phyrillas |
| 1980 | George Petrakis |

## EPISTLE READERS

Each Sunday, one of these devout parishioners has the honor of reading the Epistle Reading for that specific Liturgy. The Epistles are letters written to the fledgling Churches and individual believers in the earliest days of Christianity.

***FRONT ROW:*** Pres. Anne Pappalas, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, JoAnne Baxewanis; ***BACK ROW:*** David Campbell, Daniel Chupak, Karl Krohn, Rosemary Zaffary.

## OFFICE WORKERS

This energetic group of ladies gather together for all mass mailings. Monthly, they prepare the Echo as well as calendars, letters and Christmas cards. Although they accomplish an enormous amount of clerical work, they especially enjoy the fun and fellowship each time they meet while providing a much needed service for our Church.

***FRONT ROW:*** Kallie English, Despina Denne, Mary Sianis, Catherine Zaharis, Helen Dalaveris, Fran Ioannidi; ***SECOND ROW:*** Esther Anderson, Patricia Orphanos, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Vlacia Tsakeris, Elizabeth Ioannidi, Stephanie Ioannidi, Patricia Zampelli; ***BACK ROW:*** Gerri Karahalias, Marina Baxewanis, Pauline Heckman, Joan Giovannis.

## THE BAKERS

Throughout the many years in our Church, the energetic ladies and most recently, the hardworking men, have been using many talents to produce the very popular Greek pastries. Initially, this task was done as a Bake Sale, with each woman donating her specialty to be sold after Church. As the need became greater, with the formation of our now famous Greek Food Bazaar, the baking took on a much higher level under the supervision of seasoned bakers like Vasilia Pappas and Alexandra Lountzis. Today, thousands of pieces of pastry and hundreds of loaves of our famous Greek Bread are made in our Church kitchen, requiring hundreds of hours of work by these dedicated "Bakers". People from all over Berks County anxiously await the delicious pastries and bread that are available at our Bazaar and Annual Philoptochos Bake Sale.

***FRONT ROW:*** Marina Baxewanis, Katherine Savadelis, Eva Koutalelis, Catherine Zaharis, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Mary Sianis, Helen Dalaveris, Mary Kontaxes, Esther Anderson, Molly Kramer; ***SECOND ROW:*** Joan Giovanis, Patricia Orphanos, Despina Denne, Cornelia Dikos, Cynthia Petrakis, Maria Kotsakis, Marika Krallis, Ann Kraras, Mary Pettis; ***THIRD ROW:*** Joyce Zervanos, Despina Yianoulis, Sharon Whitman, Angie Barakos, Janice Krallis, Jim Krallis, Vlacia Tsakeris, ***BACK ROW:*** Dean Whitman, George Barakos.

***FRONT ROW:*** Mary Sianis, Eva Koutalelis, Deacon Jim Elliker, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Elizabeth Zeswitz, Joanne Dialectos, Ann Kraras, Mary Pettis; ***SECOND ROW:*** Sandra Zervanos, Kalliope English, Anna Koumaras, Maria Kotsakis, Joyce Zervanos; ***THIRD ROW:*** Despina Yianoulis, Cynthia Petrakis, Patricia Zampelli, Athena Zeppos, Lula Goodhart, Cornelia Dikos, Marika Krallis; ***BACK ROW:*** Stella Mowbray, Jim Krallis, Janice Krallis, Aliki Limberiou, Elaine Ott, Dean Whitman, Sharon Whitman, Molly Kramer, Esther Anderson, Angel Cammarano.

## MOTHERS CLUB

During the 1950s, the young mothers of our community formed an organization to provide funds for the children of our Church. Many fundraisers were held to help the growing number of families keep their children active within the parish. Most popular was the “Strawberry Festival” held each year in June. Many of those children, who are now adults with children and grandchildren of their own, have wonderful memories of these events. When our new Church was built, it was agreed that the Mothers Club would now join the hard working ladies of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society.

Representing many past Mothers Club members are: ***FRONT ROW:*** Mary Sianis, Marina Baxewanis, Christine Georgiadis; ***BACK ROW:*** Fr. Thomas Pappalas.

## FOOD PANTRY

Sts. Constantine & Helen Church made a major commitment to extend their ministry in the Berks County area. Our Church’s Food Pantry is an active participant in the Greater Berks Food Bank network of charitable food programs. Our Food Pantry responded to the growing problem of hunger in our community by ministering to our neighbors in need, mostly families from the Oak Brook Housing Development.

A core of dedicated volunteers from our parish distribute food on the last Tuesday of the month in our social hall. During periods of economic downturn and recession in our community, the Food Pantry provides the necessary food to insure that no one goes hungry in our immediate community. In addition to volunteering, parishioners have contributed generously to help cover expenses for this important ministry.

***FRONT ROW:*** Stephen Elliker, Luke Elliker; ***SECOND ROW:*** Kalliope English, Harry Dialectos, Emily Elliker, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Christine Dialectos, Joan M. Giovanis, Steve Elliker; ***BACK ROW:*** Kim Shunk, Tula Donahue, Anne Pappalas, Fran Ioannidi, Pat Orphanos, Maria Kotsakis.

## OPPORTUNITY HOUSE

This dedicated group of people, under the leadership of Kallie English and assisted by Karen Chaknos, serve dinners on the third Monday of each month to the Opportunity House. Many hours are needed to coordinate the volunteers while soliciting cash donations and bake goods from parishioners.

The St. Xenia Philoptochos Society graciously accepts the responsibility of covering all expenses that are incurred. Special acknowledgement must be made to Frank Petrakis who prepares the food in the Church kitchen while the volunteers load the cars to take the meals to the shelter. The food is then served and cleaned up by our parishioners. This successful project is a well-oiled machine because of the dedication and hard work of this committee.

***FRONT ROW:*** Gust Kraras, Rosemarie Miller, Marian Porcaro, Harry Dialectos, Catherine Zaharis, Father Thomas Pappalas, Nicholas Lountzis, Kalliope English, Maria Kotsakis, David Campbell, James Tsakeris, Vlacia Tsakeris, Presb. Anne Pappalas, Joan Giovanis; ***SECOND ROW:*** Leon Miller, Sharon Whitman, Tula Donahue, Alexander Lountzis, Jim Rohm, Chrysovalantis Siozos, Aspasia Simotas, Vasilis Phyrillas, Alice Karetas, Marika Krallis, Christiana Nicoloudakis, Margaret Phyrillas, Sharon Lountzis, Daniel Chupak; ***THIRD ROW:*** Dean Whitman, Steve Lecatsas, Stephen Lambriodes, Anastasis Phyrillas, George Nicoloudakis, Chris Sterious, Andrew Lountzis, Sterg Dikos, Evan Zervanos, George Krallis, Charles Mowbray, Frank Petrakis; ***BACK ROW:*** Stam Zervanos, Christ Kraras, Karl Krohn, Lazaros Scantzos.

## KNITTING MINISTRY

This talented group of women were organized many years ago by the late Aleka English. Today, with the support of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, they utilize their expertise as they knit beautiful lap robes and shawls that are donated to Berks Heim. They also knit an assortment of lap robes, shawls, and scarves for the shut-ins in our community each year. All the items are made at home and brought to the Church for donation.

***FRONT ROW:*** Sharon Whitman, Fran Ioannidi, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Joanne Dialectos, Catherine Zaharis; ***BACK ROW:*** Cynthia Petrakis, Vlacia Tsakeris, Esther Anderson.

## BOOK STORE

For over 10 years these lovely ladies have been responsible for our community Book Store. They make sure the store is fully stocked with icons, crosses, prayer ropes, incense and charcoal. Printed material and tapes are also available. These ladies are also able to place special orders to fulfill the needs of our community. All proceeds and profits are donated to the Church.

Dawn Medaglia, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Christine Dialectos.

## KITCHEN CREW

Although all of these men pictured are educated professional men, they have served their Church for over 40 years as the “Kooks.” We are so fortunate to have these talented group of men that devote many hours providing outstanding meals throughout the year while still enjoying fun and fellowship in the kitchen. Under the leadership of Christ Kraras and Stam Zervanos, these men work diligently for not only the thousands of meals they produce for the Annual Greek Food Bazaar, but for the many meals they serve for the various functions each year. Their culinary expertise have been widely acclaimed as outstanding, not only in our community, but throughout Berks County.

***FRONT ROW:*** Gust Kraras, Nick Karetas, Father Tom Pappalas, Jim Georgeadis, George Zeppos, Chuck Mowbray; ***SECOND ROW:*** Alex Zeppos, Jim Rohm, John Lountzis, Matt Midouhas; ***THIRD ROW:*** Leon Miller, Stam Zervanos, Evan Lambros, Tony Phyrillas, Mark Dialectos; ***FOURTH ROW:*** Steve Lecatsas, Frank Petrakis, Kim Shunk, Dean Whitman, Chris Kraras, Athan Dialectos, Bernie Donahue, Evan Zervanos.

## GROCERY CARDS

This fundraiser began in 2002. Each Sunday after the Divine Liturgy, you can find Harry Dialectos distributing grocery cards for any of the three local markets: Redners, Weis, or Giant. These cards may then be used for groceries and gasoline. Although only 30-35 families utilize this program, the Church nets almost $5,000 a year since we receive 5% of the price of the card.

Harry Dialectos, Fr. Tom Pappalas.

## CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Mackenzie Kraras, Peyton Kraras, Ann Kraras, Father Thomas Pappalas, Denise Porcaro, Jennifer Kraras, Elaine Shunk.

## CHILDREN'S LIBRARY HISTORY

Our Church's first Children's Library was officially opened on September 18, 2002. The finances to purchase the many books, videos, and other materials to initiate the library were obtained through monetary gifts given by family members and friends for the Christenings of Mackenzie and Peyton Kraras, twin daughters of Dean and Jennifer Kraras, celebrated on May 18, 2002.

The Children's Library is located at the end of the Sunday School hallway, and is open every Sunday after the Liturgy. Sunday School classes are given an opportunity to visit the Library on a rotating basis so that books can be signed out by the students. Parents are also welcomed to visit the Library with their children after each Sunday's Liturgy to sign out books.

The purchasing and setting-up of the Library were completed through the efforts of Jennifer Kraras, Ann Kraras, and Father Nick Halkias (a former deacon of our Parish.) Volunteers to operate the library included Elaine Shunk, Sharon Lountzis, and, currently, Denise Porcaro.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Milton Capiotis, Deacon James Elliker, Father Thomas Pappalas, Father Spyridon Papademetriou, Nicholas Platanos, Steve Marmarou.

## A.G.L.O.W.
### (A GATHERING TO LEARN OF ORTHODOX WOMEN)

The group started as a group of mothers with young children in need of support and encouragement. They met to talk about their concerns and pray for each other. Out of these sessions sprung A.G.L.O.W. In three years, it evolved to be a group for women of any age, offering support and spiritual guidance. Their sessions can take the form of a Book Review, a Bible Story, or a discussion about a particular subject, such as aging or learning about prayer. A corps of women in the group have formed a Prayer Chain, whereby needs within the Parish and Community are prayed for. The women of A.G.L.O.W. have as a goal to grow closer to God, and on the way, build a sisterhood founded in Christ.

***FRONT ROW:*** Rosemarie Miller, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Father Tom Pappalas, Joyce Lecatsas, Vlacia Campbell; ***SECOND ROW:*** Elaine Shunk, Roula Elliker, Ann Kraras, Demetria Chupak.

## KOLYVA PREPARERS

Following the tradition of the Greek Orthodox Church, this group of dedicated ladies prepare a tray of wheat called “Kolyva”. This is done at the request of the family of the deceased to seek mercy and forgiveness for the transgression of the dead. The symbolism of the ingredients is wheat for everlasting life, raisins for sweetness, pomegranate seeds for plenty, powdered sugar for sweetness of heaven, and parsley for the green of the earth. Days for Memorials are 9 days, 40 days, 6 months, 1 year and again 3 years after death. Kolyva may also be made to commemorate the Saturday of the Souls. The response to receiving the Kolyva is “May Eternal Be His/Her Memory.”

The preparation takes three days. On the first day, the wheat is boiled and spread out to completely dry. On the second day, the flour is browned and then cooled. Then on Sunday morning, another group combines all the ingredients and places them in a decorated tray that has the initials of the person for whom the Memorial is held. After the services, all Kolyva are mixed together and placed in small individual bags to be distributed to the congregation.

***FRONT ROW:*** Maria Kotsakis, Mary Pettis, Fran Ioannidi, Lyvia Petris; ***SECOND ROW:*** Joanne Dialectos, Father Tom Pappalas, JoAnna Petris.

## BAZAAR SERVERS

This group of ladies, headed by Evangeline McGowan, serve the delicious food that is prepared for our annual Greek Food Bazaar, the Church picnic, and the various dinners throughout the year. They work diligently for the three days each year, greeting the community members and thousands of visitors since the beginning of the first Bazaar.

Evangeline McGowan also heads the fellowship hour every Sunday after the Divine Liturgy, with the help of designated parishioners.

***FRONT ROW:*** Eva Koutalelis, Elaine Shunk, Father Thomas Pappalas, Mary Tripolitis, Esther Anderson, Cornelia Dikos; ***SECOND ROW:*** Kalliope English, Evangeline McGowan, Maria Shunk Kriebel, Cynthia Petrakis, Joyce Lecatsas, Maria Kotsakis; ***THIRD ROW:*** Kim Shunk, Janice Krallis, Aspasia Simotas, Christine Shaeffer, Molly Kramer, Maria Krallis.

# THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Throughout the years, the Parish Council would appoint some of its members to serve in various committees for better operation of the Church Community. This committee originally started as an extension of the Parish Council. Their intent was to bring new social activities to our community. Soon other parishioners joined the group in bringing new events to our Church that would bond all the generations together.

There was always a “School Committee” whose duties were to oversee the operation of both the afternoon Greek School and the Sunday School. There was always a “Services Committee” who would assist the priest in the religious services. But the most important Committee was the “Entertainment Committee” whose duties were to organize social events for the entertainment of the parishioners and also generate sorely needed income from the sale of the tickets to these events.

This committee evolved into today’s “Social Committee,” with Connie Fecera as Chairperson, and is responsible for the social events for the Parish (for the same reasons).

In recent years, this committee has been organizing the Annual Picnic, the New Year’s Eve Dances, Name Day dinners, Name Day brunch, and the Oldies Dance. It’s also been very active in the planning of the Centennial Celebration.

The members have enjoyed planning, working and attending these events to help keep our community growing socially as well as spiritually.

***FRONT ROW:*** Harry Dialectos, Elaine Shunk, Father Thomas Pappalas, Connie Fecera, Artie Fecera, Evangeline McGowan; ***SECOND ROW:*** Cynthia Petrakis, Fran Ioannidi, Frank Petrakis, Mim Lambros, William Sakellaropoulos; ***THIRD ROW:*** Stella Mowbray, Kim Shunk, Evan Lambros.

# DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

The Daughters of Penelope is the women's affiliate organization of the AHEPA Family with headquarters in Washington DC. It was founded in 1929 in San Francisco. Today, the Daughters of Penelope are leaders in philanthropic, educational and cultural activities with local chapters in the United States, Canada, and Greece. The local Daughters of Penelope Chapter was organized in the early 1950s and was very active with their support of the many Church and AHEPA Programs.

The chapter was reorganized in the 1970s when it flourished as an important part of our community. Although currently inactive, many of our ladies have fond memories of the friendships and sisterhood they experienced as members of the Daughters of Penelope Chapter.

***FRONT ROW:*** Vlacia Campbell, Catherine Zaharis, Fr. Thomas Pappalas, Christine Georgeadis, Cornelia Dikos; ***SECOND ROW:*** Vlacia Tsakeris, Joyce Zervanos, Effie Doukas, Des Denne, Despina Yianoulis, Ann Kraras, Marika Krallis; ***THIRD ROW:*** Tula Donahue, Kathy Rohm, Maro Kotsakis, Frances Ioannidi, Kalliope English.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a place for children of our Church to come together during the summer to learn about Bible stories in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. The children learn songs, make crafts, play games and enjoy each other's company.

With a different theme each year, the students can use their imaginations as they learn the many lessons the Bible has to offer. For many years, VBS has been and continues to be a wonderful way to bring our Church's young people together to discover God's love and His many offerings.

***FRONT ROW:*** Victoria Porcaro, Amy Elliker, Emily Elliker, Delaney Kraras, Zoe Simotas, Isabelle Cammarano, Ethan Ross, Joshua Ross, Zachary Simotas, Sophia Perezous, Zoe Hansen, Marisa Hunsicker, Gram Hunsicker, Alexander Sasaran, Crina Sasaran, Ann Kraras; ***SECOND ROW:*** Dante Porcaro, Soula Phyrillas, Mackenzie Kraras, Peyton Kraras, Stephen Elliker, Maria Wagner, Luke Elliker, Jackson Wagner, Gino Caloiero, Nicholas Simotas, Amanda Tilley, Christopher Sasaran, Manny Hansen, Alexander Grassley, Christopher Kraras, Christo Hunsicker, Theodora Siozos, Barbara Lambriodes, Vlacia Campbell; ***THIRD ROW:*** Maria Eleni Sterious, Marian Porcaro, Denise Porcaro, Sharon Lountzis, Aspasia Kotsakis, Jennifer Perezous, Mia Perezous, Stavanna Donahue, Deacon Jim Elliker, Chrysovalantis Siozos, Fr. Tom Pappalas, Presbytera Anne Pappalas, Fr. Spyridon Papademetriou, Maria Kriebel, Tommy Hunsicker, Elaine Shunk, Adam Tilley, Patricia (Tula) Donahue, Christina Yatron, Argie Hansen, Demetria Chupak.

# *KEFI* DANCE TROUPE

Traditionally, Greek dance has been taught as part of the curriculum of an afternoon school, and for many years, our Greek school teachers have done their best to incorporate some basic dances when the children prepare for special programs commemorating Greek Independence Day, OXI Day, or Parish Feast Days. We've been fortunate to have enough youth interest in Greek dance to take it a step further and create our own dance troupe as a separate entity from the Greek School.

February 2014 marked *KEFI's* 5th Anniversary. Originally, under the tutelage of Carnation Karros, we transitioned to our former youth director, Andrew Lentz, then Fotini Tzinis and Filitsa Kollintzas who assumed teaching responsibilities. Today, we're thrilled to also have Maria Phyrillas, a *KEFI* alum, assist with teaching. *KEFI* offers our youth a unique opportunity to bond in a more social setting when we meet weekly for practice, when we represented our Parish and marched in last year's Independence Day Parade in Philadelphia, and when we perform at Greek festivals in our neighboring communities, picnics, cultural events, at Reading City Hall and of course at our very own annual food festival. *KEFI* is creating memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

Past and present *KEFI* members embrace the teaching of our Greek traditions and customs and proudly perform the dances that embody the Greek spirit.

Vasiliki Barakos*
Nikki Becker*
Alexandra Bozakis
JJ Carasquillo*
Maria Clauser
Panayiotis Clauser
Jessica Craciun
Michelle Craciun
James Damore
Olivia Damore
Elyse Elliker*
Christina Flamporis
Melissa Flamporis
Demetra Kanakis*
Paraskevi Karros
Stephen Lambriodes*
Alex Lountzis
Nicholas Lountzis
Kendall McNeil
Jasmine McNeil
Johnny Manidis
Alexandros Mathews
Alex Midouhas
Angeliki Miranda Ganas
Christiana Nicoloudakis
George Nicoloudakis
Renee Pappalas*
Anastasis Phyrillas*
James Phyrillas
Maria Phyrillas*
Vasilis Phyrilas
Chrisovalantis Siozos
Anastasia Stoulis*
Constantine Stoulis
Demetrius Stoulis*
Sophia Stoulis
Gabriella Toma
Michael Toma
Angie Yannaris*
Paul Yannaris

**denotes original members*

***KEFI* DANCE TROUPE**

***FRONT ROW:*** Alex Midouhas, Alexander Lountzis, Vasilis Phyrillas, Fr. Tom Pappalas, Nicholas Lountzis, Michelle Craciun, Alexandra Bozakis, Jessica Craciun, Felicia Kollintzas; BACK ROW: Christiana Nicoloudakis, Panayiotis Clauser, George Nicoloudakis, Chrysovalantis Siozos, Alexandros Matthews, James Phyrillas, Anastasis Phyrillas, Maria Phyrillas, Gabriella Pendos, Angeliki Miranda.

## PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

From the minutes of the Parish Councils of our Community, baptismal records, and other sources, the names of 45 priests appear as having served the Church of Sts. Constantine & Helen in Reading, PA from the beginning of the 20th Century to the present. Nine of them served in Reading for long periods of time and have left a lasting influence on this Community. The nine priests are as follows:

### Fr. George Nassis – 1929 to 1937

Reading was his first Parish assignment after his ordination. He was a very spiritual person and a great organizer. He organized the first choir and the local chapter of the Philoptochos Society. St. Xenia appeared to him during his time here. After he verified that she was a saint martyred in 311 A.D., he composed an entire service in her honor and named the Philoptochos Society for her. Fr. Nassis served here during the Great Depression and voluntarily took a pay cut that enabled the Church to pay its bills. He taught and supervised the very successful Greek School. Although he left Reading in 1937 and passed away more than 35 years ago, many of our older parishioners speak of him with great affection because he taught them so much about their Church and heritage.

### Fr. Symeon Emmanuel
### 1944 to 1948

Fr. Emmanuel had an excellent knowledge of Byzantine music and was blessed with a wonderful voice. He served here during the transition from the original Church building on Chestnut Street to the larger building at 8th and Court Streets. He was serving here when the returning veterans started their new families. He officiated at 29 weddings in 1946 – a very large number for a Parish of this size.

### Fr. James Aloupis
### 1948 to 1954

Fr. Aloupis was the first American-born priest to serve this Parish. He introduced English in the services and the Parish became part of the Church Community of Reading by joining the Reading Council of Churches and participating in many city-wide activities. He strongly believed and preached AGAPE and became known as the AGAPE priest throughout New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania during his 50+ years of service as a priest. He passed away a few years ago.

**PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

## Fr. George Hiotis – 1954 to 1963

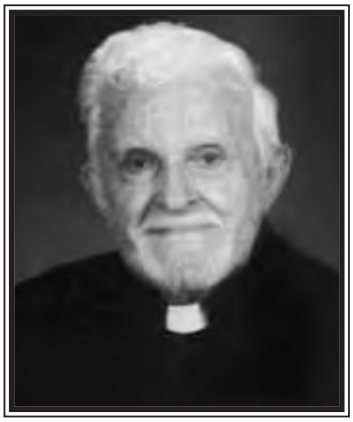
Fr. George was born on December 19, 1909 in Manhattan, New York. At the age of seven, his family returned to Greece. Ultimately, he attended the Business School and Conservatory of Music in Athens. On November 15, 1931, he married the former Anastasia Sempepos of Monemvasia, Greece. They had two children, Cosmas and Christ.

In 1936, Fr. George completed his theological training at the Theological Seminary of Corinth, Greece and was ordained a deacon on January 17, 1937, and to the Holy Priesthood on November 5th of the same year. During this period of time, he assisted Metropolitan Dyonesios who ordained him as both deacon and priest.

Fr. George's first parish was in Lagion, Greece where he served from 1937 to 1945. He was imprisoned three times during his first assignment because he was an American citizen and allegedly befriending the English. In early 1945, he was assigned to Patras, Greece for a short time until he received notice from Archbishop Athenagoras of the Americas to come to the United States. As a U.S. citizen, he had no complications and came immediately.

Fr. George's first parish in America was in Great Falls, Montana. It should be noted that at this period of time, Great Falls was the only church in the entire state so he was responsible for the spiritual need of this entire region. Father Hiotis established the first parish in Alberta, Canada (which was named St. George) and also served the community in Saskatchewan. In total, his first assignment included approximately 600 square miles in which he visited each parish on a rotation basis for five years. Sts. Constantine & Helen was his second parish in the United States. He had a beautiful voice and extensive knowledge that enabled him to conduct many services in its traditional form and to a very attentive congregation. During his service here, talk began of a "new" Church. However, lack of funds placed a hold on all plans. To accommodate the growing Parish and ever-increasing number of Sunday School students, the adjacent building was purchased, renovated, and made into several Sunday School rooms.

Fr. George passed away in 2001. May his memory be eternal.



## Fr. Peter Murtos
## 1963 to 1970

Fr. Murtos was well versed in music. He translated many original Byzantine hymns into the western style, which was better understood and appreciated by the people. He served here during the difficult period when the Parish was trying to select a location for the new Church. He worked hard during the construction and relocation of the new Church.

**PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

## Reverend Father George Giannaris
## 1970 to 1985

Father George Giannaris was born in Nafpactos, Greece. He was first brought to the United States by his parents at the age of three. The family settled in Coatesville, PA for five years. Along with his parents, he then returned to Greece where he attended the public schools, ultimately graduating from the University of Athens with a Bachelor of Divinity Degree.

He remained in Greece during the dark days of the German Occupation. He was imprisoned several times while he took an active part in the Greek resistance.

Father George returned to the United States in 1955, and was ordained into the Holy Priesthood the following year. He has served in Churches in Harrisburg, New York, Waukegan, IL and Chicago prior to coming to Reading in 1970. While serving in St. Demetrios Church in Chicago, he was awarded the honorary title of Economos, by His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos. He was awarded the Pectoral Cross in our Parish by Bishop Gerasimos.

Father George was married to the former Mary Crousouloudris and they had two daughters, Catherine and Joanne.

Fr. Giannaris arrived in Reading during trying financial times. Our finances were depleted due to the large mortgage that was necessary for the newly-built Church and the decrease in income from parishioners as a result of the split in the Community. However, the inception of the Greek Food Bazaar along with the Financial Independence Drive, in 1976, afforded financial relief. Eventually, enough revenue was gained to pay off the mortgage in a few years. During Fr. Giannaris' service, the first phase of the installation of the Icons was completed and the Narthex partition was installed. Up to that time, Fr. Giannaris was the longest-serving priest in Reading. He retired a few years ago and moved to Wilmington, DE to be near his daughter. He passed away in 2014. May his memory be eternal.

**PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

## Reverend Spyridon C. Papademetriou
## 1998 to 2015

The Reverend Spyridon C. Papademetriou was born and raised in Petraloni, a region of Karpenision, Greece. In 1945, after graduating from the "gymnasium" (high school), he was invited by Archbishop (later Patriarch) Athenagoras to study at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Pomfret, CT. He received his diploma in Theology in 1953.

In 1951, Father Spyridon was ordained into the priesthood by Archbishop Ezekiel Tsoukalas and was assigned to serve the Church of Annunciation in Newburyport, Massachusetts. He was awarded a Bachelor of Arts in Theology in 1956 and a Bachelor of Divinity in 1959. He also took courses at the Harvard School of Divinity and studied church history and Patristics under the internationally known Russian theologian, George Florovsky.

In 1959, he was re-assigned to serve Saint Spyridon's Greek Orthodox Church in Newport, Rhode Island. Following a fourteen year pastorate there, he was transferred to St. Matthew's in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1974. Father Spyridon served there until his retirement in 1998. After his retirement, Father Spyridon assisted Father Tom at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

In 1959, he was given the title of "Sakelarios." In 1965, he was honored with the title "Economos." In 1971, he was made "Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne" and in 1986, he was designated "Priest of the Year."

While in Reading, Father Spyridon served as Director to the Greater Reading Council of Churches, President of the Greater Reading Ministerium, a member of the Community General Hospital Pastoral Care Department, a director and member of the Board of the American Lung Association of Berks County, a member of the Ecclesiastical Family Court of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and President of the Orthodox Council of Churches of Eastern Pennsylvania, which embraces all ethnic Orthodox churches in the area.

After a well-deserved rest, he was assigned as associate Pastor in our Parish to assist Father Tom with our ever-increasing congregation.

Father Spyridon passed away on May 22, 2015. May his memory be eternal.

## PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### Father Nicholas Halkias
### 2002 to 2009

Father Nick was appointed to our Parish in 2002 as a Lay Assistant. He was ordained a deacon in 2004 and to the priesthood in 2006. In 2009, he was assigned to Holy Trinity Church in Steubenville, Ohio. While in our Parish, he reorganized the Library using the Dewey Decimal system and categorized all the books in the Kraras Library.
Fr. Nick also completely updated the Parish Website to include our online Heritage Room. He was instrumental in upgrading the office equipment and re-invigorating the GOYA program.

### Deacon James Elliker
### 2007 to present

Deacon Jim has served our community in the capacity of Deacon since 2007, when he was ordained by Metropolitan Maximos. Prior to that, Deacon Jim had studied under the Clergy with Lay Professions certification program since 1990. In that program he read and reported on some 30 Orthodox books, corresponding with the seminary through Father George Papademetriou, Father Spryidon's brother. In addition, he studied and learned from Father Tom, Father Spyridon, Father Nick and our esteemed chanters and choir directors.

Prior to that, Deacon Jim has been a member of our community since 1981, and was Chrismated (with Chris and Anne Kraras as the sponsors) in 1986. He and Roula have been GOYA advisors and Sunday School teachers. Deacon Jim served as Superintendent of Sunday School for several years. He has a BA in Mathematics from Miami University (1974) and a MA in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University (2014). He has served in the US Navy, and over 30 in industry. Together Deaconisia Roula (Argyro) and Deacon Jim have 5 adult children, 4 grandchildren, and another one on the way!

## PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

### Reverend Thomas Pappalas – 1985 to Present

Father Tom was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1948 to Leonidas and Hariclia Pappalas. Through the years, he served as an Altar boy and was active in GOYA and YAL. He was a graduate of Koraes Parochial School of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Chicago. He was an active member of the Sons of Pericles.

He graduated from Calumet High School in 1966. After high school he joined the U.S. Navy, and was honorably discharged in 1970. He then attended DeVry Institute of Technology where he received a degree in Electronics. During his time at DeVry, he was an active volunteer at the Chicago Institute of the Blind.

It was after his graduation that he felt a calling from God to attend the Greek Orthodox Seminary in Brookline, MA. He enrolled at the Hellenic College in 1974 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Religion in 1978. He then continued his studies at the Holy Cross School of Theology and received his Master's Degree in Divinity in 1981. While at the Seminary, he was a taxi driver in New York City on the weekends and during the summer. In 1981, he was assigned as a lay minister in Richmond, Virginia. Here, he was ordained to the deaconate and shortly after to the Priesthood. His first parish was in Perth Amboy, NJ in 1983.

It was in August of 1985 that Father Tom began his pastorate in Reading, PA at Saints Constantine and Helen Church. He has the distinction of being the longest serving priest in our history as he enters his 30th year. Fr. Tom also became the first non-Protestant President of the Reading Council of Churches in 1994 and the first in the Council's history to later serve a second term.

Father Tom was awarded the title of Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne, the highest honor awarded to married priests, by His Eminence Metropolitan Maximos.

### MAJOR PROJECTS AND MINISTRIES UNDERTAKEN DURING FATHER TOM'S PASTORATE:

1. Installation of Air Conditioning in Church
2. Introduction of Congregational Singing and Formation of Second Choir
3. Participation in the Annual Crop Walk and Opportunity House
4. Major renovation of the Church interior by creating Byzantine arches
5. New Icon Screen (Iconostacion)
6. Served two terms as President of the Reading Conference Of Churches
7. Adult Baptistry
8. Two pilgrimages to the Holy Land
9. Pilgrimage to Constantinople
10. Mission trips to Guatemala, Mexico, Navajo Reservation in New Mexico
11. Construction of Kraras Library
12. Construction of the Bell Tower
13. Iconography throughout the Church interior
14. Completion of Ypapanti Chapel
15. Construction of the Community Center and Kraras Hall
16. Consecration of the Church
17. Install Marble floor in Altar and Salea areas
18. Creation of Parish Food Pantry
19. Mentoring of two graduate students who were later ordained
20. Paying off Church mortgage
21. Centennial Celebration of the Church

**PRIESTS WHO SERVED AT STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**The other thirty-six Priests who served for much shorter periods, ranging from a few months to a few years, are as follows:**

Fr. Demetrios Petrides (1907 to 1911)
Fr. Antonios Panakritos (1911)
Fr. Daniel Skarnas (1912)
Fr. Kostopoulos (1913)
Fr. Spiros Vasilakos (1914)
Fr. Demetrios Spyriades (1916 to 1920)
Fr. Demetrios Vainikos (1920)
Fr. Nicholas Papanastasiou (1920)
Fr. Konstantinos Aretos (1921-1922)
Fr. George Menexopoulos (1923-1925)
Fr. George Nikolalides (1924)
Fr. Christos Aggelopoulos (1927)
Fr. Nicholas Anastasiou (1927)
Very Rev. Eugenios Petoulis (1928)
Fr. Amphilohios Sarantides (1928)
Fr. Antonios Ioannidou (1928)
Very Rev. Stamatiades (1929)
Fr. John Papaleonides (1937)
Fr. Theodore Stratigos (1937)
Fr. Nicholas Spiliotis (1938)
Fr. Ouzanian (1939)
Fr. Agapios Golamis (1939)
Fr. Nicholas Paviou (1939)
Very Rev. John Aslanides (1939 to 1942)
Fr. Damianos Nicholaou (1942)
Fr. Demetrios Mitakos (1942)
Fr. D. Papantoniou
Fr. Raptelis
Fr. Sophocles Sophocles
Fr. Anastasios Bandy
Fr. Peter Kaisaris (1963)
Fr. Nektarios Kehagias (1963)
Fr. Anthony Ugolnik (1995 to 2001)

# WHAT OUR PRIESTS DO FOR US

The priest spends countless hours in personal prayer, Bible reading, counseling, consoling, baptizing new members into the Faith, blessing new families at wedding services, preparing people to face death, performing funerals, comforting the family of the deceased, preparing eulogies, organizing, administering, preparing couples for marriage, writing inspirational sermons and articles, Bible study, correspondence, raising funds, overseeing stewardship, building and decorating churches and new parish centers, leading retreats for young and old, teaching the Bible, attending youth games, visiting the sick in hospitals, scheduling, exorcising, encouraging, attending innumerable meetings, reconciling people, squelching negative gossip, designing, drawing, printing, repairing, studying, reading, making difficult and unfavorable decisions, hearing complaints, confessions, counseling, praying for those who dislike him, bearing the burdens and hurts of his flock and trying to keep the body of Christ, his parish united in love and on the course leading to the God's Kingdom. This list is actually endless.

*This is an excerpt from a sermon preached by Rev. Alexander Leontis on the 50th Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood. Fr. Leontis served as Chancellor of the Archdiocese and of the diocese of New Jersey, and was pastor of St. Sophia in Albany, NY and Holy Trinity in Westfield, NJ. He is now retired and living in Florida near his son, who is also a priest.*

# PAST PRESIDENTS

Forty men and one woman have served as Presidents of the Parish Council during these 100 years. They came from all walks of life and various educational backgrounds. Their common motive was to serve the Church.

Each one devoting countless hours in the Church and/or the telephone for the church; each one continuing to build on the foundations of their predecessors.

Many served at times when the finances of the Church were difficult and ways had to be found to continue the operation of the Church. And they did accomplish it.

Many left no descendants in the Parish, but we do owe them a word of thanks.

We are re-printing here the foreword of the Past Presidents' biographies booklet published in 1987 from which we are reprinting most of their biographies because we feel that no history of this Parish would be complete without their biographies and their accomplishments

*September 2014*

My fascination with the history of our Reading Greek Orthodox Community dates back to 1953 when I did original research into the records of our Community for the 40th Anniversary Celebration and interviewed several of the founders of the community. In reading the records and talking to the founders, I felt the agonies in the tremendous efforts that these people went through in starting, organizing and developing our Community.

My fascination grew through the years and the history of Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church became a time-consuming hobby that cannot end, because every so often new information arises that sheds more light on a particular happening at a certain time in the past.

The Past Presidents Project originated in the mid-1970's, when no candidates were nominated for the Parish Council during one year and no one, it seemed, was interested in assuming the responsibility of running the church. At that point, I asked the Past Presidents to come to the front and six of them agreed to serve. It was then easier to find six more parishioners to serve and the Parish Council was complete for that year.

When I was asked to organize the first Bazaar in 1970, again I turned to the Past Presidents and received outstanding cooperation, which helped make the Bazaar so successful that finances eventually were not as serious a matter as when we started.

In addition to the Bazaar, which I chaired for six different years, I estimate that I spearheaded about ten major projects and committees during the last seventeen years (including the Ground-Breaking Celebration in 1970, the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration in 1975, and the sixty-fifth Anniversary Celebration in 1980), and in all instances, the Past Presidents were right there offering their tireless effort and support.

For all that the Past Presidents have done for me and our Church Community, I offer all the time, effort, and expense for the Past Presidents Project as my way of saying **Thank You** to all of them.

Gus C. Kraras
1987

*Reprinted from the 1987 "Past Presidents" Album*

# PAST PRESIDENTS OF STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN CHURCH
## By Year of Service

1. **Dr. Milton Hollis:** 1913 to 1920 – Deceased
2. **Constantine Mantis:** 1921 to 1924 – Deceased
3. **Nicholas Halulakos:** 1925-1927, 1936 and 1937 – Deceased
4. **Peter Yatron:** 1928-1930 – Deceased
5. **George Koumaras:** 1931, 1948, 1949, 1953-1955 – Deceased
6. **James Zervanos:** 1932, 1933 – Deceased
7. **Stelios Kavounas:** 1934 – Deceased
8. **Peter Eleftheriou:** 1935, 1939 – Deceased
9. **Michael Pantelis:** 1938 – Deceased
10. **Peter Thomas:** 1940-1943 – Deceased
11. **Peter Vlachos:** 1944-1947 – Deceased
12. **Nicholas Macaronis:** 1950 – Deceased
13. **Stephen Kanel:** 1951 – Deceased
14. **Nicholas Kontaxes:** 1951 – Deceased
15. **Dr. George Pettis:** 1952 – Deceased
16. **Emmanuel Valaske:** 1956 – Deceased
17. **Louis Daniels:** 1957 – Deceased
18. **George Fotiou:** 1958 – Deceased
19. **Gust Kraras:** 1959, 1960, 1977
20. **Dr. Christian Wornas:** 1961, 1982, 1983 – Deceased
21. **Alexis Zervanos:** 1962 – Deceased
22. **George Patton:** 1963 – Deceased
23. **George Baxewanis:** 1964, 1967 – Deceased
24. **William Thomas:** 1965
25. **Nicholas Salakos:** 1966 – Deceased
26. **Christ Sianis:** 1968-1970 – Deceased
27. **Michael Firilas:** 1971, 1972, 1993
28. **Nicholas Orphanos:** 1973, 1974, 1976 – Deceased
29. **Spiro Lecatsas:** 1975, 1978 – Deceased
30. **James Skoufalos:** 1979 – Deceased
31. **Christ G. Kraras:** 1980, 1981
32. **Harry Dialectos:** 1984, 1990-92
33. **George Limberiou:** 1985
34. **Dr. Gust Zogas:** 1986
35. **Gust Hatzas:** 1987
36. **John Ioannidi:** 1988, 1989
37. **Crystalla Papson:** 1994 – Deceased
38. **Dr. Stamatis Zervanos:** 1995-2001
39. **Steve Lecatsas:** 2002
40. **Tony Phyrillas:** 2003, 2004
41. **Artie Fecera:** 2005-2014

December 16, 2014

## DR. MILTON G. HOLLIS (1858-1924)

### President – 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920

Dr. Hollis was born in Mytilene in 1858, and received his primary education there. He then attended the University of Athens and graduated as a Doctor of Medicine. He arrived in Reading around the turn of the century and practiced medicine here.

His older brother, William, had started a candy manufacturing business and in 1909 a fire destroyed the factory, but it was rebuilt bigger and better. When William died soon after the fire, Dr. Hollis gave up his medical practice and took over management of the candy business.

Dr. Hollis was asked to head the drive to build the Church. He is remembered as a person of authority, a respected individual who used his intellectual capacity and his contacts for the benefit of the Church. He was elected the first President of the Church and was reelected annually for seven years.

Dr. Hollis was never married. He died in 1924 while vacationing in Florida. He was survived by a sister and two brothers in Reading, and another sister in Greece.

Dr. Hollis was indisputably the one who could be called the "ORGANIZER OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY."

## CONSTANTINE (PAPA) MANTIS (1874-1954)

### President – 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924

"Papa" Mantis was born in Vlachokerassia, Greece in 1874 and came to the U.S. in 1893. After spending a few years in Boston and Pittsburgh, he moved to Reading in 1911 and soon thereafter opened the Crystal Restaurant – a landmark in Reading until it was destroyed by fire in the late 1970s.

In 1911 when the early Greeks in Reading decided that they wanted a Church of their own, they asked Mr. Mantis to head a committee to conduct a drive to take whatever action necessary to make that happen. He served as President of the Parish Council for four years and on many other committees. He held several local district offices in the Order of AHEPA, and was a member of the Lions Club and the PA Restaurant Association.

His Crystal Restaurant was the rallying point for any worthwhile activity and he was host to any and all visiting dignitaries of the Church and AHEPA.

He was married to Pearl and they had four children: Homer, James, Theodore and Emela.

Many of the Greeks who came to Reading at one time or another went to Papa Mantis for work or assistance. Many families survived, thanks to Papa Mantis.

## NICHOLAS HALULAKOS (1888-1958)

**President – 1927, 1936, 1937**

Nicholas Halulakos was born in Maratha, Gytheon, Greece in 1888 and entered the United States in 1909.

For many years he operated the Fifth & Court and Hallas Restaurants in Reading, and was a member of various local neighborhood, business, and community organizations.

He served the Greek Community as President of the church Council in 1927, 1936, and 1937, as well as President of the Greek School Committee for several years.

At a time when the Depression was in full swing, he and Parish Council managed to pay all bills and provide all needed services to the parishioners. In the early 1950s when the Postwar baby boom increased the enrollment of the Greek and Sunday Schools, he was appointed Chairman of the School Committee. He and the committee proceeded to solicit the necessary funds to completely remodel the building on Walnut Street, hire a school teacher, and operate one of the most successful Greek Schools in many years.

Nicholas Halulakos was married to the former Eva Tritakis. They had two sons: John and George.

## PETER YATRON (1895-1953)

**President – 1928, 1929, 1930**

Mr. Yatron was born in Mytilene, Greece and immigrated to the U.S. in 1911. He graduated from Blackstone University in Chicago with a Degree in Law. Soon thereafter, he came and settled in the Reading area where he spent the rest of his life.

He married the former Rollio Papantsis in 1918. They had nine children: Robert, Michael, Nicholas, Stratton, Paul, Marina (Ashton), Marilyn (Holden), Irene, and Frances (Miller).

Mr. Yatron was a member of the Americus Club and a Notary Public for 12 years. He assisted many early Greeks in obtaining their naturalization papers.

His contributions to the Reading Greek Community were extensive. He was truly one of the great leaders of his era and served as Chairman of many early and strategic committees. He was a member of the Parish Council through the 1920s and served as President in 1928, 1929, and 1930. He was also the Reading delegate to the first clergy-laity convention in 1931. He was one of the founders of G.A.P.A. and was one of the first Greeks in the area to become a member of the Masonic Order.

During his presidency in 1928, the school building on Walnut Street was built to house the Greek School

Mr. Yatron loved the Church and the Greek language and with his background instilled in others the same love for both.

## GEORGE S. KOUMARAS (1892-1990)

### President – 1931, 1948, 1949, 1953, 1954, 1955

George Koumaras was born in 1892 in Aghia Paraskevi, Mytilene, Greece and came to this country at a very young age.

He was married to the former Maria Oudatzis, and they had three sons: Stratton, Hippocrates, and Michael, and a daughter, Virginia, married to Stathis Gasparis.

He was a member of the original committee formed in 1912 to try to start a Church in Reading, and his name appears in every meeting or gathering of any kind for the church throughout the years. He worked long and hard for the Church. He served as President of G.A.P.A. many times and has also served his Church Community as President and Secretary of the Church Council.

During his administration, the Greek School was always staffed with capable teachers and every effort was made to enroll as many students as possible.

In 1948 while serving as President, he welcomed the then Archbishop and later Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras in our Parish; shortly thereafter he was instrumental in securing the appointment of the first American-born Priest in our Parish, the Rev. James Aloupis.

The fortieth Anniversary of our Community was observed during his presidency in 1954 with an elaborate celebration with Archbishop Michael as the Guest of Honor.

## JAMES A. ZERVANOS (1890-1961)

### President – 1932, 1933

Born in 1890 on the Island of Kos, Mr. Zervanos emigrated from Greece to the United States in 1906. He first went to Lititz, Pennsylvania and shortly thereafter came to Reading where he obtained employment at the Berkshire Knitting Mills. He was the first Greek employed there and worked as a dye house color inspector for 40 years before retiring.

After serving as a Sergeant with the U.S. Army in France during World War I, he resumed his work at the Berkshire until returning to Greece. There he married the former Mary E. Stamatiades, and in 1927 again came to the United States where he settled with his wife and family in West Reading.

Mr. Zervanos was one of the original founders of Sts. Constantine and Helen Church and is a significant part of our Church history. He served as President of the parish Council in 1932 and 1933, and under his presidency he encouraged the establishment of the first Church Choir. He also served as Vice President of the council in 1952. In addition to his Church involvement, Mr. Zervanos was also an active member of the Orders of AHEPA, G.A.P.A. and the VFW.

## STELIOS A. KAVOUNAS (1880-1986)

**President – 1934**

Mr. Stelios A. Kavounas was born in Aivali, Turkey.

For many years, together with his brother, Nick, he operated the "Kavounas Bros." Groceries on South Ninth Street selling primarily Greek and Italian food products.

When redevelopment bought him out, he opened the Peter Pan Diner in Kuhnsville and operated it until his retirement.

He was an active member of AHEPA and headed many committees and drives. He served as President of Council in 1934 during the Depression, but his business acumen helped in meeting all financial obligations of the Church – at the time when membership dues were $12 per year.

He was married and he and his wife had four sons: Rudy Walenta, Alex, Nick, and Thomas.

## PETER T. ELEFTHERIOU (1892-1962)

**President – 1935, 1939**

Mr. Eleftheriou was born in 1892 in Agia Paraskevi, Mytylene, Greece and came to the United States in 1910.

Mr. Eleftheriou was a Community leader for many years – serving his Church in many areas including Vice President and President of Church Council in 1935 and 1939. He worked relentlessly for the progress of the Church and the Reading community. He was also an experienced chanter and sang at Sts. Constantine and Helen for many years.

He served his first term at a time when the "St. Theodore" turmoil was at its height, and it must be pointed out that when the turmoil subsided in 1938, he was called again to serve as President in 1939. He was also a charter member of the Order of AHEPA. He served as Captain of the AHEPA Patrol for about 20 years. He was a World War I veteran and saw action in France and was also an active member of the Gregg Post – American Legion for many years.

Mr. Eleftheriou was married to the former Marianthi (Mary) Zoga and they had one son, Michael Peter. He was also an accomplished artist and a skilled stone mason.

## MICHAEL PANTELIS (1880-1954)

### President – 1938

Michael Pantelis was born in Moschonisi, Greece in 1880 and immigrated to the United States in 1904.

For 45 years, Mr. Pantelis owned and operated the Reading Ice Cream Company at 10th and Greenwich Streets. He was a member of many organizations: AHEPA, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon, the Scimitar Country Club and Arab Patrol, Knights Templar, Scottish Rite Masons, Rajah Temple, and the Hampden and Mt. Penn Fire companies.

He was married to the former Esther Karithrakes.

Although a strong supporter of the Church, Mr. Pantelis did not take an active part in the administration of the church until 1938.

That year, in order to end the unhappy "St. Theodore" period, the elected Parish Council resigned, a new Priest was appointed, and to bring peace to the community, a committee was selected to administer the Parish with Mr. Pantelis as President.

In just about a year, the turmoil subsided, elections were held and Mr. Pantelis again became as before – a strong supporter, but disinterested in the administration and the politics that used to go with it.

## PETER J. THOMAS (1889-1944)

### President – 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943

Mr. Thomas was born in Karvella, Gythion, Greece in 1889 and came to the United States at a very early age.

He married the former Thalia Demakou and they had eight children: John, Pauline (Constan), George, William, Paul, Katherine (Ganas), James, and Aphrodite (Manning).

He entered the restaurant business, and for many years operated the Thomas Restaurant at Fourth and Penn Streets until his death. After his death, his son operated the business for many years.

Mr. Thomas was one of the founders of this Church. He was one of nine men who signed the application submitted to the Berks county Court on January 9, 1914 for a Charter. This was granted with the name of "Greek Orthodox Community of Reading, PA."

Mr. Thomas served on the Parish Council in 1936 and 1939 and was selected and served as President of the community in 1940 until he died in office in 1944.

Mr. Thomas served as President at a time when finances were beginning to improve, although the country was at war. He used his business acumen to the put the community on a sound financial basis.

The original Church at Lemon and chestnut Streets was mortgage free prior to Mr. Thomas' death. This made it possible to acquire the larger and more suitable church property at Eighth and Court Streets for the growing and progressive Greek Community.

## PETER C. VLAHOS (1893-1960)

**President – 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947**

Peter C. Vlahos was born in Gabros, Greece.

He served in World War I with the U.S. Army and was a member of the American Legion, Elks, AHEPA, GAPA, Royal Arch Masons, and the Knights Templar.

He never married, but his family consisted of many Greek immigrants who came to Reading looking for work. He would hire them and help them start in their new life.

He was the owner and operator of the Piccadilly Restaurant on North Fifth Street for many years, and after redevelopment took his property, he moved his restaurant to Sinking Spring until his death in 1960.

He served his Community as a member of the Council and was Council President in 1944, 1945, 1946 and 1947. It was during his presidency that a major decision was made to sell the original property at Lemon and Chestnut Streets and purchase the building at Eighth and Court Streets for just about even money – quite an accomplishment.

After the building was purchased, he headed the drive to collect the funds necessary to furnish and decorate the new Church. All this was accomplished prior to his retirement from Church administration in 1948.

## NICHOLAS M. MACARONIS (1921-1997)

**President – 1950**

Mr. Macaronis was born in Youngstown, Ohio in 1921; in 1924 he and his parents returned to their native Greece. He attended high school in Kalymnos and then returned to the United States in 1938. He served in the United States Army during World War II and while stationed in Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, he visited Reading where he met and married the former Artemis Skias. They had three sons: Michael, Peter and Phillip.

After settling in Reading, Mr. Macaronis entered the dry cleaning business in 1946 and operated the superior Dry Cleaners and Tailors for many years. After that he was active in the travel agency business with his son Phillip, specializing in airline trips to Greece.

Mr. Macaronis became active in community affairs as soon as he settled in Reading. He became President of GAPA In 1947 and the following year was elected to the parish Council. He served on the Council for a number of years as financial Secretary, and in 1950 served as President of our community. He was also active in the Order of AHEPA, GAPA, the Masonic Order, and other civic organizations.

## STEPHEN KANEL
## (1902-1988)
### President – 1951

Stephen Kanel was born in 1902 in Tripolis, Greece.

He was a barber in the Reading area for many years. Mr. Kanel was married to the former Athanasia Mary Alafris.

He was a member of AHEPA when it was first started in Reading and was also a member of the Master Barbers Association.

He served his Community as President of the Church Council in 1951 and under his direction, many needed repairs were done to the church building and much was accomplished during the first eight months of that year until he had to resign due to a severe illness in late summer.

## NICHOLAS KONTAXES
## (1924-1988)
### President – 1951

Mr. Kontaxes was born in Monessen, Pennsylvania in 1924 and was educated there. He married the former Mary Archias whose family was very active in the church since its founding.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946. He was employed by Rockwell International, rising to the position of Sales Manager until his retirement.

Mr. Kontaxes was a very active member of AHEPA and served in various offices, including President of the Chapter. During his term as President of the community, extra effort was made to reorganize the Greek School to accommodate the post-war babies who were becoming school age.

Nick's greatest contribution to the community was when he convinced the rest of the members of the Parish Council to adopt the Financial Independence Drive, and asked our people to buy notes and use the proceeds to retire the Church's mortgage, which at the time, was very high and at a high rate of interest. Thanks to Nick, this was done, and the Church was on a much better financial standing.

## DR. GEORGE S. PETTIS (1908-1970)

### President – 1952

George Pettis was born in Pergamus, Asia Minor.

Dr. Pettis was one of the most respected professionals in the history of our community. He graduated from Hahneman Medical College and the University of Iowa and then practiced medicine, specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, in the Reading area. He will always be remembered for delivering so many of the Greek babies of our Church Community for a great number of years.

He was married to the former Dorothy Keller, and they had two children: Penelope and Valerie.

During World War II, he headed the local effort for Greek War Relief, which collected tons of clothing and thousands of dollars to send to those who suffered in Greece during the war.

Over the years, Dr. Pettis served the Community in other ways, too. While serving as President of the Parish Council in 1952, he was the first to realize that our old Church building at Eighth and Court Streets would prove to be inadequate for the future. Therefore, during that year, he initiated a drive to convince the community that it was time to find a suitable lot and building for the future. Unfortunately, not enough people had his foresight and, consequently, his vision for the future was shelved.

He was a member of the Masonic Order and a very active member of the local Chapter of the Order of AHEPA. He also served as President of the Berks County Medical Society and President of the Staff of Doctors at Community General Hospital.

## EMMANUEL T. VALASKE (1911-1958)

### President – 1956

Mr. E. Thomas Valaske was born in Nashville, Tennessee and lived there most of his life before coming to Reading, PA.

He received his education from the Montgomery Bell Academy, Vanderbilt University, and Vanderbilt School of Law in Nashville. He served in the Coast Artillery Corp during World War II and was chief attorney for the Enforcement Division of the Office of Price Administration in Atlanta, GA. He was General Counsel of the American Casualty Co. until his death.

He was married to the former Mary Ann Theodoredis and they had a son, Thomas, and a daughter, Theria.

Mr. Valaske was a member of AHEPA and the Nashville, American, and Tennessee Bar Associations.

He served his community as a member of the Church Council and was President of the council in 1956.

## LOUIS E. DANIELS
## (1896-1973)
### President – 1957

Mr. Daniels was born in Pergamos, Asia Minor and came to the United States in 1910. He served in the Army in World War I and later entered the coffee and tea business, which he operated under the name of Daniels Coffee Company for many years.

He was married to the former Catherine Kouvendaris and they had one son, Michael.

Mr. Daniels served on many Church committees throughout the years and, in 1957 was President of the Parish Council. During his term as President, the expansion of the Church facilities at Eighth and Court Streets continued, and the building next to the church was remodeled to be used by the expanding Sunday School.

He was also one of the most ardent members of the AHEPA in Reading where he was President of the local chapter and also served in many local and district offices up to Lt. Governor; he was also very active in the GAPA where, again, he served in many offices.

He was also active in the Gregg Post American Legion, Elks, the Traveler's Protective Association, a member of the North End Rod and Gun club, the Hungry Club, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He was also the first candidate of Greek ancestry to run for public office in Reading when he sought a position in the state Legislature on the Republican ticket.

## GEORGE FOTIOU
## (1824-2001)
### President – 1958

George Fotiou was born and educated in Reading.

After he graduated from college, he taught school for a brief period and then joined one of the major insurance companies in the underwriting department, rising to become the head of this department.

He was elected to the Parish Council in 1955 and served as President in 1958.

When he took over the presidency, the Church was in a financial crisis because an addition had just been completed next to the Church building to house the Sunday School, and there was no money available to complete it and to pay the bank notes.

George headed a drive, and accompanied by the Priest, Rev. Hiotis and/or members of the Parish Council, visited all the homes of the parishioners and collected more than enough money to complete the building, furnish it and pay all past due bank notes.

## GUST C. KRARAS
## (1921- )
### President – 1959, 1960, 1977

Mr. Kraras was born in Terpsithea, Nafpactos, Greece in 1921. He immigrated to the United States in 1938 settling first in Nashville, Tennessee and then in Reading. He served in the U.S. Army (OSS) during World War II and in 1946 married the former Stella Dialectos and they had three children: Christ, Angel (wife of Mauro Cammarano), and Patricia (wife of Bernard Donahue).

His service to the Church began soon after he settled in Reading when he was asked to assist as a chanter, which he still continues to do today. In 1948, he was elected to the Parish Council. He served many terms and in all capacities, including that of President in 1959, 1960 and 1977. Mr. Kraras has chaired many committees in the Church, including organizing the first annual Greek Bazaar, the church's Library committee, and the Celebration Committees of 1970 and 1975, in addition to the Consecration Committee and Centennial Celebration Committee. He has served on the Stewardship Committee and also offers much assistance and guidance during the preparation time of Holy Week and Easter.

Over the years, Mr. Kraras enjoyed keeping busy with his family's businesses in Wildwood, NJ, but now he continues his business expertise through his family's travel business at White Star Tours in Reading, PA. He also is an active member and former District Governor of the Order of AHEPA, a member of the GAPA, and the Masonic Order. He recently was instrumental in re-organizing our local Reading Chapter #61 of AHEPA.

## DR. CHRISTIAN G. WORNAS
## (1920-1997)
### President – 1961, 1982, 1983

Born in Annville, PA in 1920, the son of Steve and Alexandria Wornas, Dr. Christian Wornas graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1942; then served in the U.S. Army from 1942-1943; he graduated from the Marquette University School of Medicine in 1946. He served his medical internship at the Reading Hospital in 1947; served at the Joslin Clinic and New England Deaconess Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, 1949-1950; and served his Residence Medical Training at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia in 1950-1951. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine in 1951. He then served in the U.S. Air Force from 1951-1953 as a Captain (Flight Surgeon) and then settled in the Reading community.

After that he established himself in the field of Internal Medicine and was active on the Teaching Service of the Medical Department of Internal Medicine of the Reading Hospital and Medical Center.

He was married in 1942 to the former Stella Paris.

Dr. Wornas' association with the functions of our Church began in the late 1950s as a member of the Parish Council. He was elected Vice President in 1960, and served as President in 1961, 1982, and 1983. In 1962 he attended the clergy-Laity Congress as the delegate from our Church. Throughout the years, he served on many committees, councils, and associations. However, none was as instrumental and important as his leadership from 1961 to 1970 as chairman of the Building Committee for the construction of our present Church. Dr. Wornas also started a permanent scholarship fund at Sts. Constantine & Helen.

## ALEXIS JAMES ZERVANOS (1924-2011)

### President – 1962

Mr. Zervanos was born in 1924 in Kos, Greece and immigrated to the United States with his parents, James A. and Mary Zervanos, in 1927.

After graduating from West Reading High School in 1942, he enrolled as a student at Albright College, but soon thereafter enlisted in the U.S. Army where he served four years, two of which were in the Southwest Pacific and the Philippines during World War II. Upon his discharge from the Army, he returned to Albright and graduated in 1949 with a B.S. in Economics and later enrolled at Georgetown University Law School where he graduated with a Juris Doctor Degree.

He married the former Seva Joakim from Hyannis, Massachusetts in 1953 and began his law practice in Reading, PA, eventually serving as an Assistant District Attorney for Berks County.

Mr. Zervanos – Alex – was very active in Church and community affairs, especially during the 1960s. He was a member of the Parish Council for several years during which he served as Vice President in 1961 and 1964, and then as President in 1962. He was also very instrumental in the success of the Building Committee where he served as Vice Chairman and Co-chairman over the ten-year period of its existence.

He was a member of the AHEPA, GAPA, Berks County Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association, American Bar Association, and the Endlich Law Club, where he served as Secretary, Vice President, and President.

## GEORGE C. PATTON (1922-2001)

### President – 1963

George Patton was born in 1922 at Konakia, Greece and came to the United States at the age of 5 years. He received his college education at the Wyomissing Polytechnic Institute and served as the Chief Engineer for the City of Reading, Bureau of Water.

He was marred to Dionisia Georgeaidis and they had two sons: Spyridon and Nicholas.

George served as a member of the Church Council from 1957 to 1970, as Financial Secretary from 1964 to 1969, and as President in 1963. He was one of those strong personalities whose dedication, energy, and drive accomplished a lot.

He learned that a piece of property was available within the city limits of Reading at the time the Community was looking for a location for a new Church so we could move out of the old and cramped facilities at Eighth and Court Streets. The lot was purchased for the Church and he continued with his tremendous push until approval was given to build on that lot. Using his engineering background, he advised the Building committee on many technical aspects in the construction of the new church, and also was responsible for the design of the Mechanical and Electrical facilities.

Each of the men who have served as President had to be a leader, but this community had a few men in its history who were more than just leaders – they may be described as leaders of leaders, and George Patton was one of those. The leaders listened when he spoke and much was accomplished because of that.

## GEORGE T. BAXEWANIS
## (1916-2004)
### President – 1964, 1967

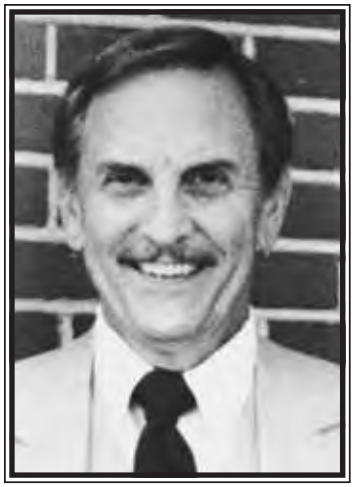
Mr. Baxewanis was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1961. The family moved to Reading a year later and became one of the most active of the early Greek families to settle in the area.

George married the former Mary Chaknos of Lancaster and they had two daughters: Joyce (wife of Dr. Stam Zervanos) and Ann (wife of Christ G. Kraras) – both residing in Reading.

Mr. Baxewanis' keen interest in the Church dated back over fifty years. His service and contributions to every aspect of the Greek Community in Reading remains one of the most impressive in our Church's history. He began his service to the church in 1920s as an Altar boy and was subsequently involved in many other duties leading up to his appointment as Choir director in 1938. As our Church's only Choir Director, he was honored for his many years of untiring service in the capacity with a special plaque presented by Bishop Philotheos in 1972.

George was also very active in many committees and organizations around the church. He was a member of the Parish council periodically since the 1940s and served as President in 1967 and 1974. He was also a member of the Building Committee.

Mr. Baxewanis retired from the North American Rockwell Corporation, but kept very active with senior citizens activities. He was also a member in the BGAPA, the Lions Club, Junior Fire Company and Kenhorst Fire Company.



## WILLIAM P. THOMAS
## (1925- )
### President – 1965

Bill was born in 1925 in Reading and received his education here. He married the former Esther Weber and they have three children: Kathryn, Peter, and Joanne.

He served in World War II and was a prisoner of war for a time. After his service, he entered the insurance business, representing Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and rose to the position of District Manager.

He graduated from the American College of Life Underwriters with a Chartered Life Underwriters (C.L.U.) degree.

After serving as an Altar Boy for several years, he became an active choir member for over 25 years.

Bill served as President during the difficult times in question as to where the Church should be built. It is a credit to his calm demeanor that both sides of the controversy agreed on him as President, feeling sure that he would preside fairly and justly, and he did just that.

Much was accomplished during his presidency due to the fact that he brought both sides together in many areas that benefitted the Church.

Throughout the years, Bill has been active in many other business, civic and fraternal organizations.

## NICHOLAS J. SALAKOS
## (1921-2011)
### President – 1966

Born in Newark, NJ, Nick graduated from Freehold High School and attended Perth Amboy Polytech. Nick worked for Marlboro Tool and Die Company to fulfill his apprenticeship as a Tool and Die Maker. He served in the Air Force during World War II and flew 76 combat missions; Nick holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal with a Cluster.

After the war, Nick married Theano Patsourakos and came to live in Reading. Hired by Textile Machine Works, later becoming Rockwell International, he worked for 18 years as a Toolmaker and built precision machines. Then for the next 18 years in the Engineering Department, he achieved Senior Manufacturing Engineer, until he retired in 1982.

Nick has served on the Parish Council for a total of 12 years. His tenure as President of the Parish Council was a hectic one, as any Past President can attest. Most of the time was spent achieving the fulfillment of erecting a new edifice, as was approved by 76% of the congregation. This achievement and thanks does not solely go to the Presidents of the Parish, but moreover to the people of our congregation. It is they who, with a determined drive, hard work, and financial support, were able to erect the beautiful Church we have today.

## CHRIST J. SIANIS
## (1918-2012)
### President – 1961, 1969, 1970

Born in Samos, Greece on November 4, 1918, Mr. Sianis came to this country with his parents in 1926. He attended public schools in Reading and furthered his education by studying Textile Engineering, Economics, and Industrial Management at several institutions.

In 1946, he married Mary Lamprinos and they had two daughters: Sandra, wife of Evan Zervanos; and Cathy, wife of James Rohm.

Mr. Sianis was employed as a Market Development Manager for Rockwell International. He held active memberships in several organizations: Travelers Protective Association, National Management Assoc., B.S.V.E. Society, R.B.A.C. International, the B.C. Society, and the Great Valley Basha, China-Burma-India Veterans Association.

Mr. Sianis became active in our Church and Community very early. He served on the Parish Council for the first time in 1946 and served many terms since then as a Member of the council and as an officer. His greatest service to the Community was serving as President in 1968, 1969 and 1970 – during some very crucial years. His leadership and compromising qualities were recognized by the community and were put to good use when they were most needed – during the planning and building of our new Church.

In 1974, Mr. Sianis co-chaired, along with Harry Dialectos, the largest attended affair in the history of our Church. A dance held at the Riveredge drew a capacity crowd of 780 people. It was a smashing success both from the entertainment and financial aspects.

## MICHAEL A. FIRILAS
## (1931- )
### President – 1971, 1972, 1993

Born on the island of Cyprus in 1931, Mr. Firilas immigrated to the United States in 1950. After serving in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict, he came to Reading and set up a successful painting and sandblasting business.

He is married to the former Kula Ioanidis (Malavazi), and they have two children: Mary, wife of Spiro Patton, and Anthony.

Mr. Firilas is a member of GAPA and served as District Governor, and also served as District Governor of AHEPA. In 1986 at the AHEPA National Convention, he was elected Supreme Governor. He is also active with Lions International and is a 32nd Degree Mason.

He served our Church Council as President in 1971 and 1972, when the Church was struggling to meet the very high mortgage payments on the new building and still continuing the work on the building that was not yet completed. His tremendous drive was instrumental in meeting all obligations and putting the Community on a sound financial basis.

Mr. Firilas has been one of the more vociferous members of our Community regarding the injustices being done to the Cypriots by the invading Turks.

## NICK ORPHANOS
## (1919-2014)
### President – 1973, 1974, 1976

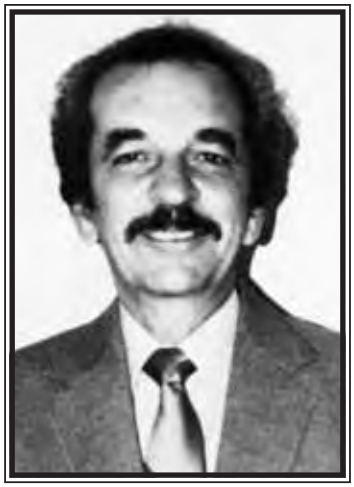
Nick was born on September 21, 1919 to Mr. and Mrs. Anastasios Orphanos in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. Shortly thereafter, the family, consisting of sister Florence, and brothers John and Angelo, moved to Reading. Being the oldest son, he was forced at an early age to help provide for the family during the Depression.

Nick joined the Army Air corps and served our country as an airplane and engine mechanic during World War II.

He married Irene R. Zaferes of Downingtown in 1946. They raised a family of four children: Ernest, Frances, Kathleen and Nicholas.

In 1955, Nick started his own air conditioning and refrigeration business. With the help of his two sons, the company has expanded into one of the most respected Mechanical Contracting companies in the area.

Nick Orphanos served on the Parish Council of Sts. Constantine & Helen from 1971 to 1978. He also served as President of the council in 1973, 1974, and 1976. Under his leadership and tenure on the council, many projects were initiated. Some of these include our annual Bazaar where he served as a Co-chairman, the purchase of the land which today is our parking lot, the reworking of the kitchen which is so important to our Bazaar, financial independence, which freed us from the burden of the mortgage on our Church and many, many more projects.



## SPIROS S. LECATSAS
## (1935-2007)

**President – 1975, 1978**

Mr. Lecatsas is a third-generation active member of our Community. His father and grandfather have been members of this Community since 1915.

Mr. Lecatsas was born in Reading in 1935, and after graduating from Reading High School, he attended Wyomissing Polytechnic Institute, Industrial Management Institute, Albright College, and the Rochester Institute of Technology. He retired from Western Electric Company where he was an Engineer, and owned his own manufacturing business.

He was married to the former Marie Knoll, and they had two sons: Steve and Chris.

Spiro has served the Parish Council in many capacities over the years: Financial Secretary in 1971-1974; President in 1975 and 1978; and as a Board Member in 1976, 1977, and 1979. In 1973, he was Chairman of the Greek Festival, which netted the Church Community $5,000 – a large sum at the time.

During his terms as President, additional ground was purchased adjacent to the Church for the expansion of the parking lot and for future use of the Community. His enthusiastic chairmanship of the Bazaar brought much-needed revenue to the church and created a tremendous fellowship. Spiro was one of those rare individuals who accomplished a lot without once raising his voice.

## JAMES SKOUFALOS
## (1934-2010)

**President – 1979**

James Skoufalos was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1934. He graduated from Wilson High School and was employed for 23 years as Vice President of Sales with Hardesty Quittner, and then President of Sales with Hi Products (a Division of Hofmann Industries).

He was married to the former Mary Xavios and they had five children: George, James, Jr., Michael, Gina Graham and Nicole Stephenson.

Jim Skoufalos was an accomplished musician, and the vocalist and band leader of The Townsmen East Band for 25 years. His performance at social functions, playing and singing Greek folk songs for the listening and dancing pleasure of everyone, is legendary.

His dedication to the community was exemplified during the two years in 1978 and 1979 when serving as Vice President and then as President, he devoted countless hours in the church, especially during Bazaar time.

## CHRIST G. KRARAS
## (1947- )
### President – 1980, 1981

Chris was born in Reading in 1947 to Gust and Stella (Dialectos) Kraras. He graduated from Reading High School and then graduated from Albright College in 1969, and received his Master's Degree from the former Kutztown College in 1972. He taught Political Science for ten years at Daniel Boone High School and also several courses at the Reading Area Community College, and was simultaneously active in the operation of his family's motel and restaurant businesses in Wildwood, NJ.

Chris is married to the former Ann Baxewanis and they have two children: Constantine (Dean) and Marisa (Hunsicker). In his spare time, he especially enjoys playing golf, and attending his grandchildren's sports and school functions.

Chris is also a member of the Masonic Order, the Retired Teachers Association, the Reading Chapter of AHEPA, the American Bus Association, and National Tour Association, as well as many local civic organizations and charities.

Following the footsteps of his father and grandfather, Chris has been active in the church from an early age. Having served as an Altar Boy for ten years, he continued his Church service as an adult by being a Sunday School teacher and director, Junior GOYA Advisor, GOYA Basketball Coach, choir member, Chairman of the Church Bazaar, and Parish Council member before becoming President in 1980 and 1981.

He was also very active with the Building Committee for the addition of the new Social Hall. Currently Chris operates the family's group travel business, White Star Tours, which functions year round from the Reading home office.

## HARRY T. DIALECTOS
## (1937- )
### President – 1984, 1990, 1991, 1992

Harry was born and raised in Reading. He is another President who went through all the stages of service to the church – beginning as an altar boy, serving on several Church Councils (1969-73 and 1983-86), being instrumental in several bazaars and culminating as President of the Parish Council in 1984.

Harry is married to the former Christine Becker and they have two sons – Thenson and Mark.

Harry is known as a "doer" in the Church – who will let nothing stand in the way of serving a purpose that he believes in. In addition to his Church service, he has served as an officer in several civic organizations – including a term as President of the Lion's Club.

After many years in the grocery business, he is currently selling real estate.

## GEORGE LIMBERIOU
## (1932- )
### President – 1985

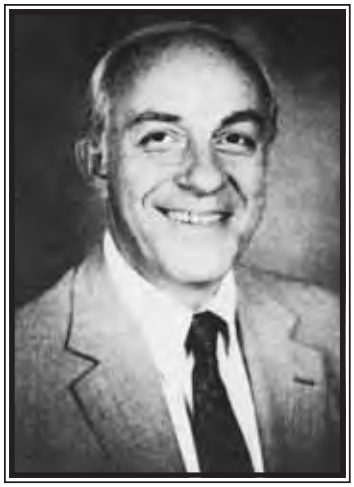
Mr. Limberiou was born in Vlachokerasia, Greece and came to Berks County in 1951. He was employed in various fine restaurants where he learned the art of fine dining. He then came to Reading and purchased a small restaurant with his brother, Ted. They proceeded to make that small restaurant into one of the largest and finest restaurants in the area.

Almost all of the Church's social functions in many years have been held at Limberiou's Riveredge Restaurant, and they have given freely of their time, money and facilities for the benefit of the church.

George is married to the former Aliki Doukas and they have three children.

He was elected to the Parish Council in 1982 and has served on the council ever since. George was elected President of the community in 1985 and one of his accomplishments was the building of an annex to the social facilities of the church to house the Bazaar equipment and also to be used during the Bazaar as a take-out area replacing a temporary building, which had deteriorated.

This new room was paid in full by the Limberiou brothers as their offering to the Church.



## DR. GUST ZOGAS
## (1931- )
### President – 1986

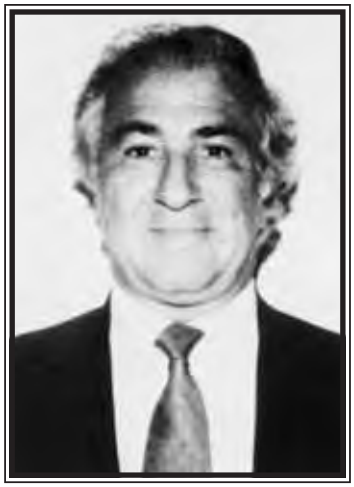
Dr. Zogas was born in Reading in 1931 and received his education here. After serving in the Armed forces 1952-54, he attended Kutztown State College and earned his Bachelor of Science degree. He continued his education and received a Master of Science degree from Temple University and Doctor of Education degree from Nova University. He also did graduate and post-graduate work at Penn State University, Syracuse University and Harvard University.

He distinguished himself as an able administrator in the area schools and served as President of Reading Area Community College.

He is married to the former Doris Pasyotis of Reading who is an artist and teacher. They have three children: Thomas, Chrissada and Elaynee.

Gust is very active in community organizations and has served as an officer for: Berks county Red Cross, Pennsylvania Association of Adult Continuing Education, Mayor's Advisory committee, Rotary Club, Community College commission, the Education of the Berks County Chamber of Commerce and on the Board of Directors of Berks Community Television. He served on many regional and statewide professional organizations.

Gust was elected to the Parish Council in 1984 and was reelected every year. After serving as Vice President in 1985, he was elected to the Presidency in 1986 where his calm demeanor became an example for others to follow. His administrative knowledge, training and experience were all freely given for the benefit of the Church.



## AUGUSTUS HATZAS, L.P.T.
## (1935- )
### President – 1987

Mr. Hatzas was born in Reading in 1935. He was educated in the Reading Public Schools and attended East Stroudsburg University receiving a B.S. in Health and Physical Therapy from there, and then a Degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Pennsylvania.

He married the former Athens Mandolos and they have two daughters: Victoria and Athena.

He served in the Parish Council for five years and elected President in 1987.

He is active in his community of Bern Township where he elected to the position of Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. He is involved in several companies. At present, he is President of H&M Rehabilitation Services, Ltd.

## JOHN IOANNIDI
## (1948- )
### President – 1988, 1989

John was born in Ducenta, Italy. In 1956, John immigrated with his parents and sister Despina (Denne) to the United States, settling in downtown Reading. John attended the Reading Public School system and graduated from Penn State University in 1970 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and completed post-graduate work in Engineering Science. John is a registered environmental expert and worked at Met-Ed and was employed by Gilbert/Commonwealth (later WorleyParsons) for 40 years as an electrical engineer, and ultimately as Director of International Nuclear Projects. Although now retired John continues to provide consulting services for international nuclear projects through his own consulting company.

John is an active member of our parish having participated in Sunday School, Greek School and GOYA. Over the years, he has served on the Parish Council in many capacities, is a member of AHEPA, and serves on the church kitchen crew. John is also an avid pilot and golfer.

John is married to the former Fran Schera and they have four children: Christos, Olivia, and twin daughters, Stephanie and Elizabeth.

## CHRISTALLA PAPSON (1924-2007)

**President – 1994**

Christalla (Anastasious) Papson was born in Jamaica, NY. She married George Papson in 1946 and had two sons: Michael and Nicholas.

The Papsons operated restaurants in New York and in Lebanon, PA until 1973 when they retired. Both were active in many civic and fraternal organizations.

Christalla served her church as Secretary on the Parish Council and was a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, serving as Vice President, and she was also a member of the Eastern Star.

## DR. STAMATIS ZERVANOS (1942- )

**President – 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001**

Stam Zervanos was born in 1942 in Reading, PA to Michael and Vasiliki (Fournaris) Zervanos. Stam received his B.S. Degree in Biology from Albright College in 1965; a M.S. Degree in Zoology from the Pennsylvania State University in 1967, and a Ph.D. Degree in Animal Physiology from Arizona State University in 1972. He is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at Penn State University.

Stam is married the former Joyce Baxewanis and they have two children: Mary (Dialectos) and Michael (Catherine Fecera).

Stam has held several offices at Sts. Constantine and Helen, including President and Vice President of the Parish Council and Food Bazaar Chairman. He has also served as GOYA Advisor, an Altar Boy and sang in the choir.

He is active in the Berks County Conservancy and the Torch Club, where he served as President in both organizations. His accomplishments include being the Director of Academic Affairs at Penn State Berks Campus, and as an internationally recognized research biologist. He has traveled widely and has published numerous scientific articles on mammalian physiological adaptations.

## STEVE LECATSAS
## (1958- )
### President – 2002

Steve was born and educated in Reading, PA. After graduating from Reading High School, he continued his education by becoming a Certified Tool and Die Maker. A few years later he became a partner with his brother, Chris, in the restaurant business. Concurrently, while in the restaurant business, Steve attended Alvernia University, graduating with honors and his Business degree. Steve then pursued a Sales and Operations Management Career, which he successfully continues with the Modern Group Ltd., serving many management roles over the years.

Steve is married to the former Joyce Tripolitis and they have two children: Stephanie and Steve, Jr.

Steve started as a young Altar Boy at the first services of our new Church and also helped wherever he was needed, from busing tables at the first Bazaar in 1971, later joining the Parish Council. Serving in many capacities over his 30 years of Parish Council service between 1981 and 2011, as a Parish Council Member, Assistant Treasurer, Vice President and two terms as Council President. Steve was the Treasurer of the Special Renovations of the Church in 1989, and for the Diamond Jubilee Celebration. And as Assistant Chairman of the 2000 Building Fundraising Committee.

He also was the Greek Food Bazaar Chairman from 1999 to 2010, served on the Consecration Committee in 2002-2001 and served on the Centennial Celebration Committee in 2014.

## TONY A. PHYRILLAS
## (1961- )
### President – 2003, 2004

Tony A. Phyrillas was born in Limnia, Famagusta, Cyprus, in 1961. He came to the United States in 1969 with his family. After graduating from Reading High School in 1979, Tony attended Penn State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism in 1983. Tony has worked as a writer and editor for various newspapers over the past 30 years, most recently as City Editor of *The Mercury* in Pottstown, PA.

Tony married Chrysoula J. Happas in 1993 and the couple has two sons, James and Patrick.

Tony was first elected to the Parish Council in 1995 and continues to serve today. He was elected President in 2003 and in 2004. Concentrating on ways to increase revenues and reduce spending, the Church finished both years with record budget surpluses. The Church saw its biggest single-year increase in Stewardship in 2003 and set a new record for Stewardship giving in 2004.

Tony also served ten terms as Parish Council Secretary and one term as Assistant Treasurer. He has chaired the gyro sandwich area of the Greek Food Bazaar for the past 20 years. He has been a Sunday School teacher for the past 10 years, including the last four as lead teacher in the high school class. A 30-year member of AHEPA, Tony held all the chapter offices, including 11 terms as President.

## ARTIE FECERA
## (1940- )

**President – 2005 – Present**

Arthur A. Fecera was born on November 28, 1940, in Reading Hospital. He lived in Ridley Park, Delaware County, before moving to Birdsboro. From there, he moved to Exeter Township and later settled in Wyomissing.

Artie has been married to his wife, Connie, for 32 years, and the couple has a daughter, Catherine Fecera Zervanos, wife of Michael S. Zervanos; and a son, Chris James Fecera, husband of Annette Weaver Fecera. Artie and Connie have two grandchildren: Ella Zervanos and Ava Zervanos.

Artie is CEO of Fecera's Furniture, a local business that has been in the family since 1947.

Artie was first elected to the Parish Council in 2001 and served as Vice President in 2004, before being elected President in 2005. He holds the distinction of being the longest-serving Parish Council President, having served for 11 consecutive terms as of this date. Artie has also served on the Stewardship Committee, the Capital Campaign Committee and the Centennial Committee. Artie prides himself in never missing a Parish Council meeting since 2001.

During Artie's tenure, our Church has seen much improvement to the physical appearance of the building, including a new roof, new carpeting and the beautiful marble tile work. The church also embarked on a highly successful Capital Campaign that raised more than $500,000 for capital improvements. The Church also celebrated its Centennial Anniversary during Artie's time as President.

Artie is a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61, Order of AHEPA, and Leadership 100. Outside of church, he has served as President of the Investment Club, Secretary/Treasurer and President of the Style Trend Buying and Advertising Group; Advisory Board for the former Meridian Bank; Advisory Board for First Priority Bank; and a member of the Aero Club for pilots. His hobbies include playing golf and flying his own airplane.

# PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE ARTS

## INTRODUCTION

We are proud of the Greeks of Reading and Berks County for their accomplishments during the last one hundred years.

The early immigrants were mostly factory workers and some operated their own small shops and/or restaurants. But most of them saw to it that their children and grandchildren received a good education.

For this Centennial Celebration Commemorative Album we have received more than 435 completed Family History forms. (These include many first-generation parents and grandparents.) A review of those forms showed that there are more than 480 college graduates in that list. Quite a few with Masters Degrees as well as a few PhD's. And we had and have several lawyers, doctors, engineers and other professions.

The second and third generations also produced several who were involved in public life.

**The following were elected and/or appointed to public offices:**

### CONGRESSMAN GUS YATRON (1927-2003)

Gus Yatron was born and raised in Reading. His father was very active in the Church. He was the contractor who built the Greek School on Walnut Street. He later went into the ice cream business. Gus graduated from Kutztown College and became interested in politics. He was elected to the Reading School Board in 1955 and to the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1956. In 1960, he was elected to the Pennsylvania Senate and served there until he was elected to the U.S. Congress where he was elected for eleven terms. He was married to the former Mildred Mentzies and they had two children, George and Theano. He was bestowed the title of Archon of the Ecumenical Throne by Archbishop Iakovos.

### JUDGE GEORGE YATRON (b. 1952)

George was born and raised in Reading. He is the son of Congressman Gus Yatron and his wife, Mildred. He graduated from Georgetown University with a law degree. He practiced law until he was elected as Berks County District Attorney for two terms. George is presently serving as Federal Disability Judge. He is married to the former Shirleen Sabalski and they have two children, Christina and Alexander.

### PRESIDENT JUDGE PAUL M. YATRON (b. 1951)

Paul was born and raised in Reading. His family were hard workers in the Church from the very early years. He served as an Altar Boy for years and attended the afternoon Greek School. Paul graduated from Creighton University with a law degree. He practiced law until he was elected Judge. He is presently serving as President Judge of Berks County. Paul is married to the former Susan Potteiger.

### COUNCILMAN STRATTON MARMAROU (b. 1933)

Stratton was born and raised in Reading. His family has always been very active in the Church. His father was one of the first Chanters of our Church. Stratton studied Industrial Engineering and Police Science. He was a Reading Policeman. After he retired, he took the position of Security Chief at Albright College. He served as President of the local chapters of both AHEPA and GAPA and is presently in his twelfth year as a member of the Parish Council. He was elected to the Reading City Council and has been serving there for nine years. He is married to the former Joan Readinger and they have two children, Stephanie and Peter, and one grandchild.

### JAMES MANTIS (1918-1995)

James was the son of Constantine Mantis, one of the founders of our Church. In 1960, he was a candidate for U.S. Congress, but lost in the Democratic sweep of that year to George Rhoads, who went on to serve many years.

# PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE ARTS

**LOUIS DANIELS (1896-1973)**
Louis ran as a Republican candidate for the Pennsylvania Legislature in the 1950. He was born in Pergamos, Asia Minor, and came to the U.S. in 1910 when he served in the U.S. Army in World War I. He operated Daniels Coffee Company for many years. Louis served as President of the Church and also of the local chapters of both AHEPA and GAPA. He was married to the former Catherine Kouvendaris and they had one son, Michael.

**CHRIST PETTIS (1926-2008)**
Christ was one of the original members of the Reading Airport Authority. Christ was born and educated in Reading. He graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. In 1956, he was appointed by the Mayor of Reading to plan the current Reading Airport. Christ was a very active member of the Church and served in the Parish Council for years. He was married to the former Mary Carnoles and they had two children, David and Cassandra, and three grandchildren.

**NICHOLAS LAMPROS (1919-1988)**
Nick was born and raised in Reading. He attended the School of Mortuary Science and became a funeral director and for 43 years helped many families at their time of grief. He served as President of the local Ahepa Chapter and was very active in the GAPA and Masonic Order. He served as State Hearing Officer for motor vehicle violations from 1956 to 1964 and also served as Assistant Secretary of the Reading Airport Authority from 1986 to 1988.

**EMMANUEL DIMITRIOU (1933-2008)**
Emmanuel was the first Berks County Public Defender. Manny, as he was known, was the top defense attorney in the area. He was born on the Island of Kos in Greece and came to the U.S. at an early age. He was married to the former Ann Reaser with whom he had six children. He also has a son from his prior marriage to Despina Choumbakos. Manny was the first Chairman of the Building Committee that built our present Church.

**GUST ZOGAS (b. 1931)**
Although Gust was never elected to a public office, he did serve for a brief period in the City Council of Reading. A vacancy became available when the City Council unanimously appointed Gust to fill the unexpired term. His career was in education; however, he was and still is involved in many other public services. After receiving his degree from Kutztown College and his PhD from Temple University under the G.I. Bill, he taught in the Reading School District when he was approached to take over the Evening School Program for eight years. At that time, the Reading Area Community College was in its infancy. Gust was placed in charge of the fledging college and in a few years it developed into a respected institution of higher learning. Once the college was in a strong position, Gust retired at the age of 72 to spend more time at his summer home in his beloved Stone Harbor, NJ. However, he did not stay retired very long; he was asked to head the Foundation for RACC for a few months, but he remained for three years with outstanding results. When the concept of the GoggleWorks came along, Gust was asked to organize its opening. Although a busy man, Gust served as President of the Parish Council of our Church. He can also be found every year at our annual Greek Food Bazaar. He has become a staple in the Church Kitchen, cooking with many of our talented cooks.

**HAROLD ANDERSON (1926-2005)**
Harold served for sixteen years as Commissioner of Muhlenberg Township, the last four as Supervisor. He also served as a member of the Muhlenberg School Board for many years.

**JAMES MANDOLOS (b. 1935)**
James served on the Board of Supervisors of Bern Township.

# PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE ARTS

**AUGUSTUS HATZAS (b. 1935)**
August (Gus) was born in Reading. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a degree in Physical Therapy. He served as a member of the Board of Supervisors of Bern Township. Gus also served as President of the Parish Council of our Church.

**THOMAS XAVIOS (b. 1953)**
Tom was born in Reading. He graduated from York College. He was elected as District Justice and has been re-elected for three terms.

**ANGEL HELM (b. 1962)**
Angel is a retired Director of Investment Banking from Wells Fargo Securities. Angel served as Vice President on the Board of School Directors for the Wyomissing Area School District.

**GEORGE ZEPPOS (b. 1975)**
George was elected to the Board of School Directors for the Wyomissing Area School District on May 19, 2015.

**We are also proud of the following who became nationally and internationally well known in the Arts.**

**BYRON VAZAKAS (1905-1987)**
Byron was the son of Alfred Vazakas, a Greek immigrant, and Margaret Keffer, a descendant of Henry Clay from Reading. He was born in New York, but the family moved to Reading in 1922. Byron established himself as a writer in Reading and many of his writings appeared in the *Reading Times* and in many other publications. His papers are held in the Gingrich Library at Albright College.

**WILLIAM BAZIOTES (1912-1963)**
Although William was born in Pittsburgh, his family moved to Reading very early where his father became involved in the restaurant business. William's brother and sister lived and worked in Reading and were active members of the Church. He visited Reading often and had many friends and relatives here. He graduated from the National Academy of Design in New York and became an internationally known Abstract Artist.

**MICHAEL CONSTANTINE (IOANNIDIS) (b. 1927)**
Born and educated in Reading where his mother was very active in the Church. He was named Constantine and was known as "Gus." His first big role as an actor was as the principal in the TV series, "Room 222." He went on to play in many Broadway shows and eventually went to television shows and to the movies. He is best known as "Gus Portocalos" in "My Big Fat Greek Wedding." He visits Reading often where he has many friends and relatives.

**DORIS ZOGAS (b. 1931)**
Doris was born and educated in Reading where her grandfather was one of the founders of the Church. She graduated from Kutztown College. She is a nationally-known artist for her seascapes. Doris is married to Gust Zogas and they have three children. She spends most of her time in their summer home in Stone Harbor, NJ.

**HARRY G. KOURSAROS (1926-1986)**
Harry was born and raised in Reading to a family that was very active in the Church. He went on to become a nationally-known artist whose work can be found in many museums.

**DR. LOUIS DALAVERIS (b. 1953)**
Louis was born in Greece and emigrated to Reading with his parents when he was two years old. He has a degree in Ophthalmology and practices in New York City. He is also an internationally-known classical pianist.

**MARIA DAMORE (FLAMPORIS) (b. 1962)**
Maria was born and educated in Reading. She graduated from West Chester University with a Masters Degree in Administration. Maria also attended many schools for voice, acting, and Vocal Pedagogy. She is a well-known local performer and vocalist and can be seen in many local productions.

## OTHER PERSONS OF NOTE IN STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH HISTORY

After looking over the long list of family histories in this Album, I realized that there were several other individuals who I worked with for our Church, Ahepa, and GAPA. But since they have passed on, or their families are no longer in the area, or for a variety of other reasons, they somehow were not included anywhere else in in this Publication. However, I feel they need to be recognized in this Historical Album:

1. **Ignatios Koutroulelis (1898-1970)** – Born in Asia Minor, he came to the U.S. in 1914. He was a long-time Chanter in our Church and also held many District and National offices in GAPA. He served on the Parish Council many times. After his death, his wife donated two reliquaries – one to our Church and one to St. Demetrios in Wildwood. His son, Stanley, was ordained a priest, but died very young.

2. **George Koutroulelis (1893-1972)** – Ignatios' brother was also a Chanter in our Church for many years and never accepted any remuneration for his services. In 1932, when the church could not pay the bank mortgage, he advanced $300 (a large sum in those days) to pay it. He was called "Mr. GAPA" for devoting so much of his time to the organization.

3. **Evangelos (1921-1999) and Evangeline (1925-2014) Graham** – Moved to Reading from Trumbull, CT in 1970 and Evangelos became very active in the Church. Evangelos (Nick) served many years as Parish Treasurer and Evangeline served as President of our Philoptochos.

4. **Nicholas Lountzis (1894-1988)** – Born in Greece, he came to the U.S. in 1911 and served with the U.S. Army during World War I. He came to Reading in 1934 and for many years owned and operated Nick's Chat-a-While Inn, one of the best restaurants in the area in those years. Nick served as President of St. Matthew's Parish and was also active in the Ahepa and the Masonic Order.

5. **Vasilia Papadopoulou (Pappas) (1904-1999)** – Immigrated to Reading in 1923. Her hard work and devotion to the Church is legendary. When the church moved to the present location and finances were a major problem, the institution of the Food Bazaar helped a great deal. Part of the success of the Bazaar was Vasilia's work. She would organize a large group of women who would come to the small Church kitchen and prepare thousands of Greek pastries and thousands of loaves of Greek bread. We did not have proofers for the rising of the bread, so Vasilia would close all kitchen openings and turn the heat up and she and all the ladies would continue working while wiping the perspiration off their foreheads. She never refused any request for additional pastries and/or Greek bread.

6. **Fanis Pallis (1894-1970)** – Born in Greece, he owned and operated restaurants in New York. Upon his retirement, he moved to Reading in 1959. He served as Parish Treasurer for many years and was active in Ahepa, GAPA, and the Masonic Order.

7. **George Yatron (1896-1971)** – He was the Father of Congressman Gus Yatron. George was born in Greece and came to the U.S. in 1912. He was a general contractor for years and then went into the ice cream business. When the Parish decided to build a Greek School, he outbid all others and produced a very beautiful school building at minimal cost.

## MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL

## PARISHIONERS OF STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN WHO WENT ON TO BECOME CLERGYMEN IN THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Our parish in Reading has been blessed to have four men who grew up in our Sts. Constantine & Helen Church and then went on to become Priests of the Greek Orthodox Church. All four of these men graduated from local high schools and enrolled in and graduated from our Holy Cross Seminary and then were subsequently all ordained into the Holy Priesthood.

These four men are: **Reverend George Gallas, Reverend Homer Demopoulos, Reverend Stanley Koutroulelis,** and **Reverend George Bratiotis.**

Rev. Gallas and Rev. Demopoulos took part in Holy Week Services and the Procession on Holy Friday in 1948 in our Church while they were still Seminarians.

Reverend Gallas served several parishes and also served as Chancellor of the Pittsburgh and Boston Dioceses.

Reverend Demopoulos served in St. Demetrios Church in Seattle, WA.

Reverend Stanley Koutroulelis was the son of the long-time Chanter of our Church Ignatios Koutroulelis. He first served as a Greek School teacher in our Parish and, after his ordination in our Church, he served Parishes in Williamsport and Altoona, PA. Tragically he died at a very young age.

And the last member of our Parish to have been ordained into the Holy Priesthood was George Bratiotis. He is the son and grandson of some very active members of our Parish. He served for many years at St. Anthony Church in Reno, NV and just recently retired.

We are very proud of these four servants of our Lord.

## MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH WHO SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

Thanks to the efforts of the late James Baxewanis, we do have a fairly accurate record of all the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces from the Mexican-American War to the Vietnam War.

In the Church hallway on the first floor, there is a display case with name plates listing their names, the branch of service, and in which war they served.

We should be thankful to these men for all their sacrifices.

5 were killed in action *(WWI*, WWII**, Korea***);* 1 served in the Mexican-American War; 40 served in World War I; 195 served in World War II; 37 served in the Korean War; 23 served in Vietnam; and 8 served in more than one war.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Joseph Agnello** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Anthony** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Homer Anthony** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Socrates Anthony** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stylianos Apostolopoulos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Apsokardu** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Lesvia Apsokardu** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **Louis Apsokardu** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Stelios Apsokardu** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **James Arnidis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Michael Architas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Stamatis Architas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Chris Athas** | WW 2 & VIETNAM | USAF |
| **Stratton Athas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Louis Ballas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Basil Balentine** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Frank Balentine** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Donald Bankes** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Anthony Baxewanis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **James Baxewanis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **William Baxewanis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Christos Baziotis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Charles Billys** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Basilios Boudoires*** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Christos Bratiotis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Evangeline G. Brinit** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **John Calludis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Donald Cameron** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **Gust Capiotis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Michael Capiotis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **William Capiotis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christopher Carley** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **George Carley** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Homer Carley** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Aris Carpousis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **James A. Carpousis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Andreas Cassimatis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Gust M. Chaknos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christy Christ** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **Constantine Comins** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **John Comins***** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **Peter Comins** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Condos** | KOREA | USAF |
| **Peter Condos** | KOREA | MARINES |
| **Anthony Corriere** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Daburlos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Gust Daniels** | WW 2 | USCG |
| **Louis Daniels** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Dantos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Spero Darras** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Anthony Dastra** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Casidine Demopoulos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Theodore Demopoulos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **James Devage** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Athanasios Dialectos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Emmanuel Dimitriou** | — | ARMY E.T.O. |
| **Steve Dimitriou** | KOREA | MARINES |
| **Nicholas Doukas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Peter Doukas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Dracoulis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Anthony Drakly**** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **John Drakly** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Mary Lee Drakly** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Christ Drosas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Theoharis Efstration** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Panagiotis Efstratiades** | VIETNAM | MARINES |
| **Michael Eleftherion** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Peter Eleftherion** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas English** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stanley English** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James H. Evans** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George P. Exas** | WW 2 | MARINES |
| **John P. Exas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Ignatius Fanaras** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stelios Fanaras** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Michael Firilas** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **Louis Fisher** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Fisher** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Yuff Fisher** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **James Flamporis** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **George Fotiou** | VWW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Fotis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Ross Fournaris** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Sebastian Frangiadis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **John C. Fry** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Gallas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **James Gallas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christ Ganas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Steve Ganas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Gregory M. Ganikon** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **John Ganikon** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Mark Ganikon** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Milton Gasparis** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Andrew George** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **John George** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Michael George** | WW 2 | ARMY |

*(Continued on next page)*

## MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH WHO SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Peter George, Jr.** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Theodore George** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Georgeadis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stephen Georgeadis** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **James A. Geras** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Evangelos N. Graham** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Duke Gregory** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Michael Gregory** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Borys Hac** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **George N. Halulakos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **John N. Halulakos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Anthony Harris** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **James Harris** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Michael Harris** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **George L. Hatza** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Gust Hatza** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Christy Hatzas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Hatzas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Lewis Hatzas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Ignatios Kageos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Efthemeos Kaisoglos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **John Kaisoglus** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Peter Kaisoglus** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Steve Kalaras** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Daniel Karafel** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Achileffs Karboustas*** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Alexander Karetas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Angelo Karetas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Efstathios Karetas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Harry Karetas** | VIETNAM | USAF |
| **Thomas Karetas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **George Katsarides** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Ipaminontas Kevelos** | MEX. BORDER 1916-17 | ARMY |
| **Peter Klonis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Gus Klonis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Steve Kolevas**** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Louis Kolevas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Charles Kontis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Peter Kopteros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **William Kopteros** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Harry Kostomiris** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **George Koukoulis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Michael Koumaras** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Deomidis Koursaros** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Harry G. Koursaros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Koursaros** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Christos E. Kousoulides** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Koutroulelis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Aris Kouvaros** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Kontaxes** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stratton K. Kralles** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Anthony Krallis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **George Kranis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Peter Kranis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Thomas Kranis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Gust Kraras** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Richard D Kubacki** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Angelo Kyrmas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **James Kyrmas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Alex Lambi** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stamatis Lambros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stephen Lambros** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Andrew Lampros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **John N. Lampros** | VIETNAM | USAF |
| **Nicholas Lampros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Joseph D. Lasky** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Anthony Laspopoulos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Laspopoulos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Spiro S. Lecatsas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Stanley Lecatsas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Stanley G. Lecatsas** | KOREA | NAVY/USAF |
| **Nicholas Lountzis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Macaronis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Mcaronis** | VIETNAM | USAF |
| **James Macaronis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Alex Makros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Gust Makros** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Theodore Malanios** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Malanios** | WW 2 & KOREA | ARMY |
| **Cetoris Maliadis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Malones** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Gustav Mandolos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Manolakelli** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Stanley Manolakelli** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Homer Mantis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James H. Mantis** | WW 2 | NAF |
| **Theodore Mantis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Theodore M. Mantis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **George N. Marmarou** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George P. Marmarou** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **John Marmarou** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Steve Marmarou** | KOREA & VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Steve Marmarou Jr.** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Strat P. Marmarou** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **William N. Marmarou** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **James Marousi** | WW 2 | MARINES |
| **Foch Martin** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Leon Matsikas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Michael Matsikas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **James Mavadis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Charles Mavreles** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Thomas Mavreles** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Constantine Mavrides** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Euripedes Mavrides** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Michael Mavrides** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Charles Melones** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Frank Melones** | WW 2 | |
| **Frank Milones** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Millen** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Milones** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Steve Milones** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Leon Miller** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Peter Moliatou** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Gust Monos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Constantine Morris** | WW 2 & KOREA | NAVY |
| **Nick Morris** | WW 2 | USCG |
| **Peter Morris** | WW 2 & KOREA | MARINES |
| **Charles Nicholas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas D. Nicholas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter D. Nicholas, Sr.** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Nickles** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Augie Ninfo** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Odages** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Andrew Odagis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Chris Odagis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **James A. Odagis** | WW 2 | ARMY |

*(Continued on next page)*

## MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH WHO SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Leon Odagis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Angelo Orphanos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **John Orphanos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Nicholas A. Orphanos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Constantine Palles** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Menelaos Palles** | — | MARINES |
| **Peter S. Palles** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Sarantos Palles** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Demitrios Papadopoulos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **George J. Papadopoulos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Thomas L. Pappalas, Rev. Fr.** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Evangelos A. Pappas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **George A. Pappas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George N. Pappas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Louis M. Pappas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Michael T. Pappas** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Peter A. Pappas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Thomas M. Pappas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Papoutsis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Papoutsis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Pantelis Papoutsis** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **George M. Papson** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Gust Paras** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **George Paull** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Timoleon Paraskevoulis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Pasayiotis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Pasayiotis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **George Paskopoulos** | WW 1 & WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Andrew Paskos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **George C. Patton** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Peter Paskos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James G. Petrakes** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Eleftheris Petrakis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Frank T. Petrakis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Christ Pettis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **George Pettis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Nicholas W. Porcaro** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **John Psilelis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Chris Psomas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Jase Reebe** | Present | MARINES |
| **Nicholas J. Salakos** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **John Sapna** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Michael Sapna** | WW 2 | OSS |
| **Theodore G. Sarangoulis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **William C. Sarangoulis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Ignatius Savadelis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Scoufis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **William J. Sebekos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Basil Sevast** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christopher Sevast** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **George Sevast** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Ulysses Sevast** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **William Sevast** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christ Sianis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James W. Sianis** | present | NAVY |
| **John Sianis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **William Sianis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Skias** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Theodore C. Skias** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Louis Sofianos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Milton Sofianos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Paul Soulgis** | WW 1 | NAVY |
| **Antonis Soultanis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Basilios Soultanis** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Steve Soumas** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Prodromos P. Souyoltjis** | WW 1 | NAVY |
| **Elia (Al) Spirelis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Gust Spirelis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Spirelis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Spirelis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Paul Stamnos** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Alex Stevens** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Constantine Stevens** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Steve Stevens** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Syrellis** | WW 2 | NAVY/MARINES |
| **John P. Tabakelis** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Elias Tallas** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Gust Tallas** | WW 2 | MARINES |
| **George P. Thomas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James G. Thomas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James P. Thomas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **John P. Thomas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Paul P. Thomas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Wiliam P. Thomas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Louis Toontas** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **James Tsakeris** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Stan Tsakeris** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Steven Tsakeris** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Manuel Valaske** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Varish** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Anthony Vastardis** | WW 2 | USAF |
| **Epanim Vastardis** | WW 2 | NAVY/USAF |
| **Louis Vastardis** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Elias Veros** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Robert Wesner** | WW 2 & KOREA | ARMY |
| **Christ Wornas** | WW 2 & KOREA | USAF/ARMY |
| **Nicholas Wornas** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Sophocles Xanthopoulos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Peter Xavios** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Spero Xavios** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Harry Yatron** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Michael P. Yatron** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas P. Yatron** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Paul P. Yatron** | WW 2 | NAVY |
| **Stratton P. Yatron** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Yianoulis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **James Zaffray** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Nicholas Zaffray** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Harry Zaharis** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Paul P. Zaharis** | VIETNAM | NAVY |
| **Peter Zaharis** | KOREA | NAVY |
| **George Zeppos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Alex Zeppos** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Peter Zeppos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Alexis J. Zervanos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **Christ J. Zervanos** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **James Zervanos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **George Zervanos** | WW 2 | ARMY |
| **John Zervanos** | WW 1 | ARMY |
| **Nikitas Zervanos** | VIETNAM | ARMY |
| **Chris Zogas** | KOREA | USAF |
| **Gust Zogas** | KOREA | ARMY |
| **Peter Zogas** | WW 2 | MARINES |

# GREEK EMIGRATION TO AMERICA

## HOW THEY LIVED, WORKED, AND DIED

### Why the Church was so important to the Early Greek Immigrants

The Greeks' love for family was the life-giving force that governed much of their behavior. They worked hard, maintained a thrifty and frugal lifestyle, saved their money and sent much of it home; as promised, many returned to their families after a few years. More than a third of those who immigrated to the United States, did return to their homeland; however, some were lured back to America again.

Some of the immigrants realized they were never going back to Greece. Many of these permanent residents never married. But others, though frowned upon by their peers and decried by the Greek press, married *"xe'ni," (a stranger, an "American," not a woman of Greek descent).* More often, they would arrange with their Greek friends or *"patrio'ti" (countrymen)* to marry their friends' sisters or relatives. These women were often referred to as "picture brides" and would make the journey to America to meet up with the prospective groom, thus saving the expense of loss of wages or added cost of travel to bring the new wife to America[1]. Sometimes they would have their families arrange a "proxenia'." Others would make the trip back to their homeland. Soon after the groom's arrival in Greece, the agreeable, and sometimes not so agreeable, prospective bride would be married. Many would stay, but the majority would return to America, and the immigrant would return to his job and immediately start a family.

Early family life in America was difficult, so the immigrant family tended to congregate on one street or at least in one section of a city, thus forming Greek neighborhoods or ghettos, and in some cases, Greek towns. As families developed and the Greek population expanded, it was of highest priority to build a Church and recruit a Priest. The birth of a child, a prospective baptism, a wedding, or as too often the case, death, made it a necessity to have the presence of a Greek Orthodox Priest. The people would pay to have a Priest come from another city to perform these religious rituals until they had their own Priest.

The construction of a Church and acquisition of a Priest occurred as soon as there were enough immigrants to form a community and sufficient funds were collected to begin construction and hire a Priest. The *"koinotita" (community)* was very natural to the Greek and it did not take too many before a *"koinotita"* was established and officers were chosen with a president, secretary, and treasurer. They would also form committees to look into the various issues affecting the community at large. There would always be a church committee. Usually, it would take a community of 300 or more to construct a church, but far fewer were frequently enough to proceed. They would simultaneously be seeking a priest and undertake the formal process of incorporation under their respective state laws.[2] These undertakings occurred without the involvement of an organized church or archdiocese in America, and the *"koinotita"* would seek a Priest by going directly to the Church of Greece or to the Patriarchate in Istanbul, Turkey. In the meantime, the immigrants conducted their own Church Services by themselves without a Priest and sometimes in their own homes. Often they would rent a hall or utilize another church or chapel unti they were ready. If they used a church, it was most often an Episcopal Church or, as in the case of the Greeks in Lititz, the Moravian Chapel on the grounds of the Linden Hall Academy. Until they could have a Priest of their own, they would invite a Priest from a neighboring larger city to conduct the Liturgy.[3]

The beginning of life is celebrated in a unique fashion among the Greeks; the newborn is brought into the Church forty days following its birth for its special blessing, usually on a Sunday after the Liturgy for all to witness. The Priest greets the parents and their baby in the Narthex and offers the blessing. Then the Priest cradles the baby in his outstretched arms and carries it forth up the Nave of the Church and into the Altar *(if it's a boy)* singing hymnals of praise as the parents follow the Priest to the front of the Altar, but not into the Altar. Then, the priest delivers the baby into the arms of the mother or father as the congregation look on in admiration and with a congratulatory spirit. Baptism and chrismation often occurs soon thereafter and represents the beginning of a purpose-driven life to become conscientiously engaged in a life united to God's will. Of course, this is with the help of the parents and godparents and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The end of life is also a time to celebrate the life once lived. Sad as it is for the loved ones left behind, the Orthodox believe in eternal life and that the soul lives on in God's kingdom. Indeed all the mysterious sacraments invites the gifts of the Holy Spirit to nurture a person's soul to enable one to manage the vicissitudes of life and a close and healing relationship with God.

Thus, the Greek Orthodox Church comes to play a major role in the life of Greek Americans to a lesser or greater extent depending on the depth of their faith. Regardless, beyond the varying impact the Church has among its faithful, it can be considered the most important institution in Greek America. The Church not only fosters the Greek-American's Christian heritage, but also preserves the Greek-American's ethnic roots through the promotion of its Hellenic traditions and customs. It is difficult to describe Greek America without acknowledging its intimacy with the Greek Orthodox Church; the two are interconnected. Whether the Greek is born in Greece or in America of Greekborn parents, there exists a cultural tension, reinforced to a large extent by the Church, to explain what it means to be Greek-American. The first generation Greek-American grapples with what life was like in his native country and how it has changed during the early years of his settlement in America. Once married with children and now "Americanized," the immigrant too soon realizes that he too has become Americanized and realizes how the Greece he left behind will now be the *"xenitia" (foreign land).* This already becomes the case for the second generation, and especially the third generation grandchildren.

In 21st century America, it is increasingly evident that the Greek Orthodox Church is no longer an ethnic church. It is difficult to predict how much of the Greek-American heritage can be preserved. The first generation Greek-born immigrant is now in the minority. The Church is now in the hands of mostly third generation grandchildren or new converts to Orthodoxy. With the vast majority of fourth and fifth generation "Greek Orthodox" having a decreasing percentage of any ethnic connection to their Greek immigrant past, there is less and less likelihood that the ethnic character of the Church can be preserved. When there is one or more generations that separate the Greek-American from the Greek Church, that person does not take long to lose his or her identity with his or her Greek roots. On the other hand, one might ask, after how many generations is one no longer Greek-American? What does it mean when a fourth generation 12-year-old, now a member of a non-Greek Church, says to her second generation grandparents, "I want to be Greek"? At the same time, the 12-year-old's first cousin of the same family who is a member of the Greek Church still thinks of herself as Greek-American. There are indeed significant cultural differences between these two first cousins. Perhaps one might ask, what does it take to make one feel Greek?

*(The article above is an excerpt from a paper written by Dr. Nikitas Zervanos in 2008 which describes the lives of the early Greek immigrants.)*

# AN ADDENDUM TO DR. ZERVANOS' PAPER

## By Gust C. Kraras

In Reading, during the1920s and 1930s, most of the Greeks lived on "half streets" (Cedar, Pear, Reed, etc.) where houses were cheaper. Since many of the neighbors were Greek, this provided the opportunity to create their own environment. Many stories have been told of the good times they had in their own small back yards, especially on name days, when their wives would prepare the proper appetizers such as *keftedes, yiaprakia,* etc. They would sip the home-made *ouzo ($5.00 per gallon)* and start singing the songs they remembered from back home. Going out for dinner was unheard of. The only time for dining out was at the annual dances sponsored by AHEPA, GAPA, and the Church. Banquets were very rare; AHEPA would sponsor a banquet for special occasions or District Conventions. The first banquet sponsored by the Church was in 1954 on the 40th Anniversary. For the dances, they would hire Greek-American Orchestras from New York to provide the Greek music so dear to those homesick immigrants.

**From where did the early Greeks come from to Berks County?**

Most of the early Greek immigrants to Reading came from Lesvos, Kos, Vlahokerasia, and Asia Minor. The largest group came from the island of Lesvos *(also known as Mytilene)*. One of the earliest immigrants from this island was William Hollis, who started a candy store in his basement on South Seventh Street which eventually became the Hollis Candy Factory employing many hundreds of workers. Word went back home that Hollis was looking for workers, so many young boys from Lesvos came to Reading between 1905 and 1915.

The second largest group came from the island of Kos. In the early 1900s, a large group of young boys had immigrated to New York together and were looking for work. One of them found out that a factory in Lititz, PA was looking for workers so the entire group moved to Lititz to work for the Animal Trap Company. A few years later, there was a workers strike in that Company and these immigrants thought that they would lose their jobs. Some of them would travel to Reading for supplies from the Thomas Store, and on the way they noticed a sign stating "Boys and Girls wanted to work." They informed their co-workers about it and many left Lititz and came to Reading to work at the Textile Knitting Mills. They even brought along a small treasury that they had established to pay itinerant Priests to visit them.

The third largest group of Greek immigrants came from Vlahokerasia, a town in Peloponnesus. One of the first was Constantine Mantis, who opened the famous Crystal Restaurant (a landmark for decades) on Penn Square. His success brought many young men from Vlahokerasia and its neighboring towns to Reading.

Due to the proximity of Lesvos to **Asia Minor,** word had spread there too of the work available in Reading so many young men from Asia Minor came to Reading.

## MY FOND MEMORIES OF AN UNUSUAL YEAR IN THE HISTORY OF STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH – 1948

### By Gust C. Kraras

In my over 70 years of serving our Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Reading, and over the previous years where I served churches in Greece, Tennessee and Louisiana, I reflected back and realized that one year did have some very special events that occurred. I thought I would recall them for our parishioners of today.

That year was 1948, and it ended up being a year where we had some significant events that had long-term effects on our Community. I'd like for all our Parishioners to know about them since much of this is not written anywhere else:

**1. A SPECIAL VISIT BY THE THEN ARCHBISHOP OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, ARCHBISHOP ATHENAGORAS.**

As everyone knows, in the year 1946, we moved our church from Lemon Street to our new edifice at Eighth and Court Streets. A lot of money was spent getting the Church renovated to appear more like a Greek Orthodox Church. In 1948, a special Parish Council Meeting was called to officially welcome His Eminence Archbishop Athenagoras to our Reading Parish for the first time. A meeting was held in our sparsely furnished Church office in the back of the first floor. The only seats we had at that time, were old school desks and I can still remember the sight of Archbishop Athenagoras, who was a big man, squeezing himself into one of those small desks. Archbishop Athenagoras was a very impressive man and he made some very pointed remarks on the day he visited us and I will try to paraphrase his message below:

> At the time, he was expressing his admiration for our people here in the United States of Reading and Berks County for the successes they had realized in this country. He noted that it appeared that most of the successful people were involved in restaurants, people who were florists, and people involved in furs. I remember him stating that "the people were successful in restaurants, although most of them were only familiar with cooking beans in Greece." He said these people were "successful as furriers when, in fact, the only skins they were familiar with were the skins of sheep and goats." And the people were "successful as florists when the only flower common to all was the Oregano from the mountains of Greece." Never were truer words spoken and never was our Community so blessed. He left us from his visit with the message to keep up the enthusiasm and to keep our Church and our traditions going forever.

**2. THE CUSTOM OF OUR GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION.**

In our first church at Lemon and Chestnut Streets, the Church was very small. On important holidays and especially on Good Friday, there were usually more people outside the Church than inside. When the time of the procession with the Epitafio was to occur, the procession came out of the Church and the people would follow. It was always very impressive although there was no particular organization of any sort, and none was needed. When we moved to our new Church at Eighth and Court Streets in 1946, there was a major problem because there were circular stairways leading up to the second floor that housed the Nave of the Church. In the years 1946 and 1947, there was no Good Friday Procession outside of the church, which, of course, saddened our parishioners. But in 1948, the decision was finally made to go outside and I was assigned the responsibility of organizing the procession. (I think I was chosen because I was the youngest member of the Parish Council and also because I had some Army training and other types of training with other organizations.) What I recommended was that, since it would take extra time to get the people down the stairways and into the street, that the people would go first and wait for the Epitafion to come out of the

*(Continued on next page)*

Church. Once outside the Church, the people would follow, which we did up to Washington Street and back. This plan was usedevery year until we moved to our present location on East Wyomissing Blvd.

I distinctly remember that everyone was so elated and that the Priest proclaimed that night that this was truly a “test” and the Parishioners passed with flying colors.

**3. SPECIAL SEMINARIANS**

In 1948, there two young men from our Reading Parish who were studying at our Seminary in Boston. These two men were Homer Demopoulos and George Gallas. At that time, during the Easter Season, the Seminarians were sent back to their Parishes to participate in all the Easter Services. Although not yet ordained, they were vested in Deacon vestments and took part in the Services and remained on either side of the Priest during the Epitafio Processions. Both of these two men went on to serve the Church for many years as priests, and were very successful. I distinctly remember how proud and impressed all of our Parishioners were with these two young men participating that year.

**4. OUR MIDNIGHT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF 1948**

Over my lifetime, I have literally attended hundreds of Parish Council meetings at all hours of the night and day. But in 1948, on one special night, it is the only time I attended a meeting at midnight. The back story on this is that we had a Greek School that was very well attended, but one in which we had a hard time finding a Greek School Teacher. We were informed that there was a Greek School Teacher available, so we contacted him and we ended up hiring him. But what occurred is that the Archdiocese had certain requirements that certain documents must be produced from the candidate in order to be considered as a Greek School Teacher in the local parishes. Somehow or other, this teacher that we hired, was not able to produce those documents at that time. So we received a registered letter from the Archdiocese telling us that unless the teacher was removed, there would be consequences against the Parish Council and the Parish itself. The President of our Parish Council at that time worked a very late shift, so we had to wait until his shift was over and we started the meeting just before midnight. The sole purpose of this meeting was to immediately dismiss the teacher, so we would not have any repercussions from the Archdiocese. We did just that at that midnight meeting. Interestingly enough though, this teacher who was dismissed, eventually provided the required documents and was approved by the Archdiocese and we ended up rehiring him as the Greek School Teacher of our Parish.

So those are some very interesting recollections that I have from that special year of 1948. However, I did want to make known another very interesting situation that occurred exactly ten years later in 1958, which involved the decoration of the Epitafio Kouvouklion.

Prior to 1958, the ladies of the Philoptochos would usually collect the necessary money, buy flowers, and then do the actual decorating of the Epitafio Kouvouklion. During the preparations for the decorations in 1958, a slight disagreement came about among a few of the ladies as to the color scheme to be used. There were definitely some very hard feelings, so the decision was made that next year we would have an outside professional decorate the Kouvouklion, thus eliminating any controversy. That year, we had a donor for all the expenses, so there were no objections. The florist picked up the Kouvouklion, took it to his shop, decorated it and brought it back completed and everyone was happy. However, a huge problem arose the following year, when our Orthodox Easter coincided with the Western Easter. The florist could not do the decorating, and certainly the cost of the flowers was going to be much more expensive. But the florist was kind enough to teach us how to decorate it his way. A crash course in floral decorating followed, and the rest is history. Ever since that year of 1958, we buy the flowers and decorate the Epitafio Kouvouklion every year up to the present day.

# ANTONELLOS

**Theodoros**
**1942-**

**Frangeska (Papadopoulos)**
**1950-**

Theodoros Antonellos was born in Andros Greece in 1942. He married Frangeska Papadopoulos, also of Andros, Greece.

They have two sons, Antonios and Leonidas.

The family came to the United States in 1988.

# ANTONELLOS

**Antonios**
**1971-**

**Kristina (Petris)**
**1979-**

Antonios Antonellos was born on November 29, 1971 in Andros, Greece to Theodore and Franjeska Antonellos. He graduated from high school in Andros, and came to the United States in 1988. Antonios is the owner of the Park Place Diner in Denver, PA.

Kristina was born in Reading on October 17, 1979 to Anthony and Lyvia (Georgeadis) Petris. Her family originates from Kos, Greece. Kristina graduated in 1998 from Wilson High School in West Lawn, PA. She earned a BS in Education from Millersville University in 2002 and a Masters Degree in Reading/Language Arts from Millersville University in 2006. received her Master's Degree in Education. She is a kindergarten teacher in the Muhlenberg School District.

Antonios and Kristina (Petris) were married on July 16, 2005 at the St. Paraskevi Church in the town of Kos. They live in Sinking Spring and have two sons Theodore "Teddy" age 5, and Dimitri, age 3.

Kristina is a member of the Philoptochos Society and Antonios is a member of the William Penn Chapter No. 61 Order of AHEPA.

# ANTONELLOS

**Leonidas**
**1976-**

**Rhea (Hatzistavrakis)**
**1981-**

Leonidas was born in Athens, Greece in 1976. He immigrated to America in 1988 settling in Maple Shade, New Jersey. He obtained Bachelors Degree in Finance from Rutgers University. Leonidas is self-employed, is the co-owner of Park Place Diner.

In 2012, he married Rhea Hatzistavrakis, who was born in Reading, PA in 1981. Rhea holds a Bachelors Degree in Marketing and Business from Penn State University and holds Pennsylvania Certification in Elementary Education from Alvernia University. She is employed as an elementary teacher with the Reading School District. Rhea has lovingly served as a Sunday School teacher at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church for 4 years.

Leonidas and Rhea are expecting their first child in February 2015.

# ARNIDIS

**Constantinos J. "Gus"**
**1893-1980**

**Marianthi "Mary" (Fotiou)**
**1895-1967**

Constantinos J. Arnidis, aka Gus, was born in Constantinople, Turkey in 1893 to James and Catherine Arnidis. The Arnidis Family fled Chios because of the Turkish pogroms. When conscripted into the Turkish army, Gus and his sister, Zoe, escaped to Italy, coming to America in 1918. Making their way to Reading, Zoe took ill and died, never to enjoy the New World.

Gus met Stavros Fotiou with whom he opened a barber shop on the 7th Street train tracks between Penn and Cherry Streets. Stavros returned to Agia Paraskevi, Mytilene to bring his sister Marianthi, aka Mary, to America. They were the children of Fotios and Eleni Fotiou. Gus and Mary married in 1919.

From 1920 to 1928, they had four children: Niki (Kousoulides), Fotios (husband of Angela Crimaldi), James (a Navy veteran and husband of Pauline Terefenko), and Helen (wife of George J. Psaros.) Fotios resides in Reading at the age of 92.

Mary was a sewing machine operator and an early member of the Mother's Club. Gus attended meetings at the home of Dr. Hollis during the early Church years. He took granddaughter, Cynthia, to church and Greek School on a regular basis.

Three of their seven grandchildren, James Arnidis, Jr., Connie Fecera, and Cynthia (Petrakis) are members of our Church. There are 11 great-grandchildren and thirteen great, great-grandchildren. The house on Master Street was always filled with good times and great food! Marianthi passed into eternal life in 1967, and Gus in 1980. May their memories be eternal.

# ARONES

**James**
**1887-1981**

**Calomera (Pontikakos)**
**1895-1959**

"Jim" came to America from Monemvasia in 1904. As a young man, he engaged in a variety of enterprises. In 1912 he went back to Greece to fight in the war against Bulgaria and Turkey.

Returning to America, he married Calomera Pontikakos and settled in Kearny, New Jersey, where he pursued a career in the confectionery and ice cream business until his retirement in 1945.

Throughout his life, Jim was a steadfast supporter of the Greek Orthodox Church. He was a member and served in various capacities in a number of benevolent societies such as GAPA, the Pan-Laconian Federation, and served as President of the Monemvasioton Society of America on several occasions.

Calomera worked with her husband and was a member of the women's auxiliaries of the various organizations. She was a founding member of the Philoptochos Society of St. Nicholas in Newark, New Jersey.

In 1961, two years after the death of his beloved wife, Calomera, Jim and his daughter, Helen, came to Wyomissing to live with his other daughter and son-in-law. Katherine and Nate Savadelis, and his grandchildren, Charles, James, and Andrew. In December, 1963, he was delighted to have a granddaughter, Mary Ann, join the family.

Jim became a member of Sts. Constantine and Helen in 1961, helping and supporting the Church every way that he could, including being the higest bidder for the honor of "opening" the doors to the new Church building on February 7, 1970.

# ARONES

**Helen**
**1920-2014**

Helen Arones was born 1920 in Newark, NJ where her parents ran a confectionary store and where she was educated. She moved to Reading in 1961 and became a very active member of St. Xenia Philoptochos and worked in many projects in the Church.

In 1961, two years after the death of her beloved mother, Calomera, Helen joined her family in Wyomissing. She became a member of Sts. Constantine & Helen and the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society where she participated in their philanthropic endeavors.

In 1970, she was one of the very first women to be elected and serve as a member of the Parish Council.

She resided in Wyomissing with her sister, Kathy Savadelis, and their father, James Arones.

Unfortunately, she became ill and had to be placed in a nursing facility where she lived until her death.

# BANKES

**Donald**
**1921-2010**

**Helen ("George" Golfinopoulos)**
**1916-2004**

Donald was born in 1921 in Reading, Pennsylvania to William and Jenny (Fritz) Bankes. He graduated from Reading High School in 1939. After graduation he worked at the Reading Railroad Company with his father. He served in the United States Army in the European Theatre during World War II. He was in a ship on his way to Japan when the war was declared over. He returned to his job at the Reading Railroad Company after his return from the war and received his Trade Papers as a boilermaker in 1947. He loved drafting and took courses to become a draftsman.

Helen George (Golfinopoulos) was born in 1916 in Reading, Pennsylvania to Paul and Jennie (Kokonis) Golfinopoulos. Her parents immigrated from Patras and Koroni, Messinias, Greece. She worked at Berkshire International to help support her family.

They married on June 26, 1946. After their marriage he changed careers and began working for the US Postal Service as a mail clerk. He was very interested in becoming a manager and took postal courses to advance. He was promoted to supervisor and continued to advance. He was Manager of Retail for the Sectional Center when Reading was in charge of the Sectional Center. His final position before retirement was Manager of the Parcel Post Station. He instilled his love of the Postal Service in his daughter, who followed in his footsteps. Helen worked part time in retail during their marriage.

Donald converted to Orthodoxy and became a faithful member of the church. He very rarely missed a service after his conversion. He devoted countless hours working in the church office and to maintain the church grounds. He became a member of the Parish Council in 1978 and was elected Financial Secretary in 1979. He enjoyed working in the office Sundays and inputting the information for stewardship into the computer. He performed these functions for over twenty years. He was an active member of AHEPA. He also was a member of the National Association of Supervisors and was a Lifetime member of National Active and Retired Federal Employees.

Helen was also an active and faithful member of church. She attended church regularly. She was a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos, serving as the dues collector for ten years. She was also a member of the Daughters of Penelope Proteus Chapter #197.

Donald and Helen have two children: William, husband of Mary Hoelker; and Sharon, wife of Dean Whitman. Sharon is still an active member of church. William was an altar boy and member of GOYA, serving as Vice President. He received an award in Greek School for mastering the language.

# BANSNER

**Scott**
**1963-**

**Crisanne (Carley)**
**1965-**

Crisanne Bansner, daughter of Christopher and Anna Carley, was born in Reading on May 6, 1965. She married Scott Bansner on September 15, 1985. Scott and Crisanne live on Sofianos Rd., named after Anna's father, Louis Sofianos who owned a farm on the property now belonging to Crisanne, her aunt Catherine Zaharis and Catherine's daughters.

Crisanne is a proud graduate of Reading High School and Albright College, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics with a perfect 4.0 GPA and was awarded the Elwood F. Briel Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching. Crisanne furthered her education at Lehigh University where she earned a Master of Science in Mathematics. Crisanne shares her love of mathematics with her students at Wyomissing Area Junior-Senior High School where she has taught since 1989. She is the chair of the math department, and can often be found at school events, including sports, concerts, and musicals. She has also worked as an adjunct instructor for Albright College and Penn State Berks campus. Scott also graduated from Reading High. He holds an associate's degree in Business Administration from RACC and works for J. C. Ehrlich. Scott is an avid golfer and referees PIAA basketball; in 2007 he was selected to referee the state final for AAA ladies.

Crisanne has studied piano for over 40 years, and has proudly served as church organist since high school. She also serves as assistant choir director and is a member of Philoptochos. Crisanne is also a dedicated library volunteer. She is currently the treasurer of the board of directors of the Muhlenberg Community Library, where she has also been president of the Friends of the Library, and helped with many activities including the summer reading program.

# BARAKOS

**George J.**
**1950-**

**Angie (Plakas)**
**1961-**

George was born July 20, 1960 in York, Pennsylvania. His parents are John and Pauline Barakos. His parents immigrated to the United States from Platanos, Nafpaktias, and Thermo, Greece. George graduated from Baltimore International Culinary Institute. He was the founder and former owner of Silk City Diner, Kyma Seafood Grill and Johnny's Bar & Steakhouse.

Angie was born September 8, 1961 in Hanover, Pennsylvania. Her parents are James and Celia Plakas. Her parents immigrated to the United States from Neohori Nafpaktias, Greece. Angie graduated from Millersville University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

George is a member of the Order of AHEPA William Penn Chapter 61. He was a coach of the GOYA basketball team. He is an active participant in the baking for the Philoptochos spring bake sale and the church bazaar.

Angie is a member of the St. Xenia Chapter of Philoptochos where she is the 2nd Vice President. She was a Sunday School teacher and a GOYA advisor and coach. Angie is a member of the church Centennial Celebration Committee. She is an active participant in the baking for the Philoptochos spring bake sale and the church bazaar. She is a board member of Neohoriton Syllogos.

Angie and George are the parents of three children, Yianni, Xeni and Vasiliki. Yianni is a graduate of Washington & Jefferson College. He was an altar boy, a member of GOYA and is a member of the Order of AHEPA William Penn Chapter 61. Xeni is a graduate of East Stroudsburg University. She was a member of GOYA, a GOYA basketball coach and a Vacation Bible school helper. Xeni is currently the assistant woman's lacrosse coach at Millersville University. She is the program director for Lanco Elite. Vasiliki is a graduate of Rollins College. She was a member of GOYA and a Vacation Bible school helper. Vasiliki is currently a graduate assistant and assistant woman's lacrosse coach at Aurora University.

# BAXEWANIS

**John G.**
**1885-1944**

**Angeliki (Stringas)**
**1889-1971**

John was born in Constantinople, Turkey in 1885. He immigrated to the United States in 1913 and was employed in textiles for many years.

In 1915, John married Angeliki Stringas, who was born in Kos, Greece in 1889. She immigrated to the United States on July 9, 1914.

John and Angeliki were the parents of four wonderful sons: George, James, William and Anthony.

John served on the Parish Council of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. In 1930, during the Great Depression, John took out a $500 mortgage on his home to help finance the construction of the new Greek School building.

John passed away in 1944 and Angeliki in 1971. May their memory be eternal.

# BAXEWANIS

**George**
**1916-2004**

**Mary (Chaknos)**
**1921-2006**

George was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, August 16, 1916. He was the son of John and Angeliki (Stringas) Baxewanis. His parents moved to Reading in 1917 and he received his education in the Reading Public Schools.

George was employed by the Berkshire Knitting Mills for 25 years. At that time, full-fashion knitting was terminated and he was hired by the Rainbow Sign Company as shop foreman in the electrical department and worked on the installation and fabrication of neon signs. He retained his position for ten years, after which he went to work for the Textile Machine Works, which was known as Rockwell International, for 17 years, in the sub-assembly department. He retired from Rockwell in 1982.

George's interest in the church dated back 65 years. His service and contribution to every aspect of the Greek Community in Reading still remains as one of the most inspiring in the church's history. He began his service in the church in 1921 as an Altar Boy, had been a choir member since 1928, and was appointed Choir Director in 1938 and remained as our director until 2001, when he retired. He was honored by the Bishop in 1972, and on April 23rd and 24th, 1988, a special testimonial was given by the congregation and past and present choir members for his years of service as Choir Director.

George had been active in many committees and organizations around the Church. He served as Church Council President in 1964 and 1967, Vice President 1958, 1959, 1965, and 1966, and on the Building Committee. He served as a member of the five-year Planning Committee and the 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Committee, as well as Council Member for many years: 1945-1947, then again from 1957-1967. He had held membership in the Kenhorst Lions Club, GAPA, Kenhorst Fire Company, and Junior Fire Company, and was a member of the Order of AHEPA.

Mary was born in New York City on June 27, 1921. She was the daughter of Michael and Eftihia (Petmezas) Chaknos. Her family left New York and moved to Lancaster where she went to school and graduated from McCaskey High School. Mary was the first President of the Greek Mother's Club of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church when it was located at 8th and Court Streets. She had been a member of the Church Choir since 1940 and an active Member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, and served as President in 1979-1980. She had been the ticket Chairperson for the Church Bazaar for many years and Secretary of the five-year Planning Committee established in 1988. She had been employed as the Kenhorst Borough Secretary for 32 years, and was the Education Chairman of the Kenhorst Woman's Club.

Mary and George got married in 1940 and lived in Kenhorst for 64 years where they raised their family. They have two daughters, both living in Reading: Joyce, wife of Dr. Stam M. Zervanos; and Ann, wife of Chris G. Kraras. There are four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

# BAXEWANIS

**James**
**1918-2002**

**Angelica (Grammaticas)**
**1925-**

James was born in Reading, PA in 1918 to John and Angeliki (Stringas) Baxewanis. He worked for 46 years as a machinist at Textile Machine Works later known as North American Rockwell. He served in WWII. He was a talented woodworker, artist (watercolor and oil painting). His greatest achievement was his family.

Angelica was born in 1925 to James and Euterpe (Perides) Grammaticas. She graduated from Reading High School with honors and went to McCann's Business School. Angelica worked at AT&T and Bell Labs as an Executive Secretary for 26 years. Angelica was an avid reader, excellent seamstress, cook and talented oil painter.

In 1948, James married Angelica in Reading, PA. They had two daughters, Denise Epler and Terry Essis. Both are graduates of Millersville University. James served on the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church from 1964 to 1973. Angelica was the Secretary/Treasurer and active member of the Philoptochos. Both James and Angelica sang in the choir from 1955 until 1971.

James passed away in 2002. May his memory be eternal.

# BAXEWANIS

**William**
**1920-2008**

**Marina (Papadopoulos)**
**1930-**

William was born in Reading, PA on January 1, 1920 to John and Angeliki (Stringas) Baxewanis. He attended Reading High School. He was a Navy Seabee veteran of WW II and served in the 95th Naval Construction Battalion, fulfilling his assignments at Roi-Namor and Iwo Jima. He was first employed at Berkshire Knitting Mill, then 20 years at Brown's Trailers and lastly as an assembler for the former Teledyne, Mohnton, retiring in 1982.

In 1954, he married Marina Papadopoulos, who was born in Tripoli, Greece on August 24, 1930. Marina immigrated to the United States on October 27, 1952. She worked as an inspector at Western Electric, later AT&T, and finally Lucent Technologies, retiring in 1988.

William and Marina were blessed with three wonderful children, Cathy (Pavlatos), Joanne and John. All children are proud graduates of Governor Mifflin High School. Cathy graduated from East Stroudsburg University, Joanne graduated from Shippensburg University and John from Penn State University.

William and Marina enjoyed playing cards and traveling with their family and friends. Bill bowled in a local men's seniors league. He was also a talented woodworker, doing his own home repairs and remodeling. Marina was an excellent cook, gardener and seamstress. She sewed many of the clothes her children wore growing up.

William served as a member of the Parish Council and sang in the Choir for over 35 years. He was a charter member of the Hellenic Senior Breakfast Group. Marina was a faithful member of the Choir for forty six years and worked as a Church office volunteer specializing on the Community Echo for twenty years. Marina volunteered at the Church bazaar from 1970 to 2012 and was a member of Philoptochos.

William went to meet the Lord on November 21, 2008. May his memory be eternal.

# BAXEWANIS

**Joanne Angelica**
**1960-**

Joanne Angelica Baxewanis was born in Reading, PA on June 27, 1960 to William and Marina (Papadopoulos) Baxewanis. She is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School and Shippensburg University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She was the Marketing Director of Coventry Mall in Pottstown, PA during which she earned the title of Certified Marketing Director (CMD) from the International Council of Shopping Centers. She then owned and operated Kastrava Printing in Douglassville, PA. Joanne currently runs a home business and also works as a bookkeeper.

Joanne is an active and dedicated member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. She was an enthusiastic member of GOYA and held the office of Vice President in 1977 and President in 1978. She has been a member of the Choir since 1974 and a volunteer at the Church Bazaar since 1970. Joanne is honored to be an Epistle Reader and is also a member of Philoptochos.

From 1993 to 2005, Joanne was a member of the Penntennial Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. She also is actively involved in local theatre, performing in productions with Reading Civic Theater, Genesius Theatre and Shillington Summer Theater.

# BAXEWANIS

**John William**
**1961-**

**Lisa Ann (Gapinski)**
**1965-**

John was born in Reading, PA in 1961 to William and Marina (Papadopoulos) Baxewanis. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering and is employed as an Electrical Engineer.

John is married to Lisa Ann Gapinski and they have a daughter, Olivia, age 10, who is a student at Whitfield Elementary School.

John was a member of GOYA and served as President and Vice President.

# BECKER

**Dave**
**1955-**

**Irene Maria (Petrakes)**
**1955-**

Irene Becker was born in Reading, PA on June 22, 1955 to James & Rita Petrakes. She was educated in Reading and is a child care assistant.

Irene was active in many aspects of our Church Community from Greek School, to GOYA and being a member of the St. Xenia Ladies Philoptochos Society.

Dave was born in Reading on October 5, 1955 and was also raised in Reading.

Irene and Dave were married on December 3, 1989. They have a daughter Nicole "Nikki" who was also an active member in GOYA, Greek School, and the Greek Dance Troop.

# BERSTLER

**Donald**
**1946-2014**

**Paula (Wagaman)**
**1956-**

Donald was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1946. He graduated from Schuylkill Valley School District in 1964. He retired from the railroad as a Maintenance Track Foreman.

Paula was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1956. She graduated from Kutztown Area School District in 1974. She received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information and a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from Kutztown University. She also attended Berks Technical Institute and earned an Associate of Business Science. She currently works as a bookkeeper/art assistant at a graphic arts business in Reading.

On April 26, 2003 she converted to Orthodoxy. She began worshiping at St. Matthews Greek Orthodox Church in Reading, Pennsylvania. In September, 2007 she made the decision to switch to Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

She became a very active member of our Church. She joined the second choir in January, 2008 and one year later joined the first choir. She has visited other Orthodox churches, but enjoys worshiping in the Greek Orthodox Church the most. She learned the Lord's Prayer in Greek and recites it from memory perfectly. She is very active in St. Xenia Philoptochos and has taken on the role of Stewardship Chair. She collects the stewardship and maintains the computer membership records. She also is a member of the committee preparing the membership directory each year. She works with the printer who prints these directories each year. She labels all the directories to assure that each member receives one. Paula is a welcome and integral part of our Church.

Paula and Donald do not have children together but she is stepmother to two daughters, step grandmother to 3 granddaughters and step great grandmother to 2 great granddaughters.

# BREEN

**Edward W.**
**1947-**

**Stephanie (Zaharis)**
**1953-**

Ed was born in Lebanon, PA on February 8, 1947, graduated from Sanford Schools High School in Hockessin, DE, graduated from University of Iowa Midwestern College with a B.S. in Physical Education and Lehigh County Community College with a Physical Therapy Assistant Education degree, serving 8 years in the US Army and retired in July 2013 from the Lebanon VA Medical Center after 29 years of service.

Stephanie was born in Pottsville, PA on July 7, 1953, graduated from Allentown Business School and attended Alvernia College. Stephanie works at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. Stephanie and Ed were married on October 8, 2011 at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and reside in Lebanon, PA.

Stephanie's children are Stratton Anthony Stefanowicz, and Mercena Nicole Stefanowicz Canales; Ed's children are Justin and Erik Breen. Stratton served as an altar boy for many years and Mercena and Stratton were members of GOYA, attended Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

Stratton and Mercena graduated from Muhlenberg High School in 1998 and 2000. Stratton graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 2004, Bachelor of Science in Statistics, Mathematics and Economics and also graduated from Notre Dame University in 2007 with an MBA degree in Business Administration. Mercena graduated from Albright College in 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Elementary Education. Mercena taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Mercena and Javier Canales were married on June 6, 2012 and reside in Reading, PA.

Justin attended Tulpehocken High School and Erik graduated from Tulpehocken High School in 2012. Erik graduated from Lancaster County Career Technical School in September 2013.

Our beloved Stratton went to be with our Lord Jesus Christ on March 19, 2011 and Justin went to be with our Lord Jesus Christ on April 8, 2005. May Their Memory be Eternal.

# BURKMAN

**Darryl Glenn**
**1961-**

**Anna (Frangakis)**
**1963-**

Anna was born on December 29, 1963 in Reading, PA to John and Despina Frangakis.

Anna was raised & educated in Reading, graduating from Mt. Penn High School and then Kutztown University and continues today successfully running and working in the family restaurant business.

In addition to supporting our Church and many of the Church organizations and functions for many years, Anna belongs to and supports many Local Community Organizations.

Anna held the office of President for the Shillington Rotary Club and was also the Director of the Rotary Student Exchange Program as well as hosting multiple exchange students.

The Deluxe Restaurant hosts many of these organizations' regular meetings to support them as well as the Community.

Anna has two Children, Evangelia and Stellios Koutroulelis. Evangelia who was educated in and now practicing as a Registered Nurse and Stellios who is attending Penn State University. Anna is married to Darryl Glenn Burkman.

Anna's brother, Isidoros, was also raised and educated in Reading, graduating from Mt. Penn High School. He entered the family restaurant business.

The entire Frangakis Family has worked closely in the family's restaurant business for over fifty years and support our beloved Church Community in any way necessary.

# CALOIERO

**Salvatore**
**1967-**

**Marianthi**
**1973-**

Salvatore Caloiero was born in Andali, Italy, on March 19, 1967, to Guerino and Margherita Caloiero. His family immigrated to the United States in 1980, settling in Watertown, Mass. Sal graduated from Watertown High School in Watertown, Mass., in 1985.

Marianthi (Panos) Caloiero was born in Reading on April 28, 1973, to Vasilios and Anna (Kakalelis) Panos. She graduated from Wilson High School in 1991, and earned an Associate's Degree in Business from Penn State University in 1993.

The couple married on September 22, 1996. The Caloieros started their business, Creative Flooring Inc., in 2006, and opened their Creative Floorings & Design Showroom in West Reading in 2010. Previous to Creative Flooring & Design, they owned Salvatore's Ristorante in Wernersville for 6 years.

Sal is a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61 AHEPA in Reading. Mary is an Assistant Teacher in the Sunday School.

The couple reside in Sinking Spring with their three children: Guerino (Gino) Dimitri, a student at Wilson High School, Anna Margherita, a student at Wilson West Middle School, and Felicia Angelina, a student at Wilson Green Valley Elementary School.

Gino and Anna are members of GOYA and Gino serves in the Altar. Gino and Anna also attended Camp Nazareth and volunteer at the church Food Pantry.

# CAMMARANO

**Mauro**
**1949-**

**Angel (Kraras)**
**1951-**

Mauro was born in Reading in 1949, to Mary Cammarano and the late Joseph Cammarano. He graduated from Reading High School in 1967 and Hiram Scott College in Scottsbluff, Nebraska in 1971, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics. He taught all levels of math as a teacher at the former Central Catholic High School from 1971-1981. While at Central, he was the varsity basketball coach for three years and the youngest Athletic Director in Berks County for eight years. Mauro has been with White Star Tours for over 40 years as Assistant Director. He is also involved in the many family enterprises in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Mauro is a member of the "Shade Tree" cooking crew at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church, volunteering his time in the kitchen for the various functions throughout the year.

Angel was born in 1951, into a very devoted family of our Community. She is the daughter of Gust Kraras, and the late Stella Dialectos Kraras. After graduating from Reading High School in 1968 and Kutztown State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in education in 1972, Angel taught in the Reading School District for nine years, at both Amanda Stout and Northwest Elementary.

She has been an active volunteer as a member of the Friends of the Reading Hospital and Medical Center for over 20 years. She served on the Executive Board for eight years and was chairperson for both numerous Tower Balls and Tower Golf. Presently, she is also a member of the Reading Public Library Committee that raises much needed funds thru the "Cocktails and Classics" event each year. Both Mauro and Angel are involved in the Tocqueville Society of the United Way.

Angel has been involved in many Church activities throughout her life. She was raised in a family where love of God and love of Church were a focus in her life.

While growing up within the Church, she was a member of the Greek School, Sunday School and Choir. For 22 years, Angel was a Sunday School teacher for many of the young adults active in our Church today. Since 1983, she has been a dedicated member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She has served in many capacities including President, from 2004-2008. Currently, she heads the Community Outreach Committee that disperses funds to the many charitable organizations in Berks County.

Angel was a member of the Centennial Celebration Committee that planned the many yearlong activities that commemorated the 100th Anniversary of our beloved Church. She was very active in organizing the Grand Banquet to celebrate this milestone.

Mauro and Angel met while still in high school. They were married in 1972, by Rev. George Giannaris. They are the proud parents of two children, their son, Andrew, husband of Sophia Poulos Cammarano and the grandparents of their two little blessings, Isabelle, age 5, and Joseph, age 3, as well as their daughter Stephanie, wife of Gregory Labe.

# CAMMARANO

**Andrew**
**1981-**

**Sophia (Poulos)**
**1981-**

Andrew was born in Reading in 1981, to Mauro and Angel (Kraras) Cammarano. He graduated from Wyomissing High School in 1999, and Villanova University in 2003, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. He has been working in his family business, White Star Tours, since his graduation. Andrew has been actively involved with the youth programs in Wyomissing. He has coached both football and basketball youth teams for many years. As a member of the devoted Kraras family, Andrew has been involved in the Church, all his life. Growing up, he was actively involved in Goya, Sunday School and a dedicated Altar Boy. Today, Andrew assists his grandfather, Gust Kraras in preparing the Church and specifically, the Altar, for the many Feast Days and holidays throughout the year. He can always be seen assisting in the kitchen for the various functions especially during the Annual Greek Food Bazaar.

Sophia was born in 1981, to John and Helen (Lampos) Poulos. She was a graduate of Marple Newtown High School in 1999, and West Chester University in 2004, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and Special Education. She taught school in the Coatesville School District and Exeter School District till 2010. Sophia was a varsity lacrosse coach in both districts. From 2008-2011 she was a member of the Junior League of Reading. She attended St. Luke's Greek Orthodox Church in Broomall, PA, where she was active in the Dance Group, Goya and Sunday School. Sophia was a Sunday School teacher before moving to Reading.

Andrew and Sophia met while both attended Camp Nazareth while in high school. They were married in 2006, and are the proud parents of their daughter Isabelle, age 5 and their son Joseph, age 3.

# CAMPBELL

**David**
**1951-**

**Vlacia (Zaharis)**
**1954-**

David Bruce Campbell was born in Coledale, PA in 1951. He was a graduate of Mahanoy Area High School and attended Reading Area Community College. He has worked for Reading Railroad, Conrail and Northfolk Southern Railroads, currently as a foreman.

Vlacia Marianthe Zaharis Campbell was born in Pottsville, PA in 1954. She obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State University in Speech Pathology and Audiology, a Master's of Science Degree in Communication Disorders from Bloomsburg University and a Doctorate of Educational Administration from Widener University. Vlacia's career in education began as a speech and language therapist at Schuylkill and Berks County Intermediate Units. At BCIU, Vlacia also served as an educational consultant working at the national, state and local levels, with the responsibility to build capacity within school systems to increase the achievement of children. In 2001, she began working at Muhlenberg School District as the Supervisor of Special Education, and in 2007 as Assistant Superintendent.

Dr. Campbell has published professional articles on topics related to student learning and educational planning. She is active in various professional and community organizations.

David has served as a member of the Parish Council, is an Epistle Reader, and volunteers with Church ministries including the Emergency Shelter, Habitat for Humanity and the Bazaar.

Vlacia was Sunday School Director and also taught Sunday School for over 25 years. With her sister, Demetria Chupak, she established the nursery, wrote the nursery curriculum, and aligned the nursery through high school curriculum. Vlacia co-directed and taught Vacation Bible School. She is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and volunteers at the Bazaar and Emergency Shelter. She was a member of AGLOW and the Daughters of Penelope.

David and Vlacia were married in 1979, and have two wonderful children, Andrew and Alexis.

In addition to spending time with family, David and Vlacia enjoy traveling, biking, hiking, cooking and gardening.

# CAMPBELL

**Andrew Louis**
**1981-**

Andrew Louis Campbell was born in Reading, PA in 1981. He is a 2000 graduate of Muhlenberg High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Pennsylvania State University in psychology and Masters of Education and Educational Specialists degrees from Lehigh University in School Psychologist. Drew obtained national certification as school psychologist, and specializes in working with children with behavior challenges. He currently works at Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 as a school psychologist. He is actively involved in various professional organizations.

Andrew served Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church as an altar boy for thirteen years, starting at age 4. He also participated in Oratorical Festivals, attended Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, and was a member of Junior Choir, the Christmas Pageant, GOYA and GOYA basketball. Drew volunteered with Church ministries including the emergency shelter, Habitat for Humanity and the bazaar.

Drew resides in Bethlehem, PA. In addition to spending time with family, friends and his adorable boxers, Carter and Luna, he is an avid rock climber and mountain biker. Drew also enjoys traveling, karate, jujitsu, running, gardening and cooking.

# CAMPBELL

**Alexis Catherine**
**1984-**

Alexis Catherine Campbell was born in Reading, PA in 1984. She is a compassionate, loving, caring person. Alexis currently lives in her hometown where she continues to learn and grow while doing her best to serve God and others by carrying out His plan for her life.

She is a 2002 graduate of Muhlenberg High School. Alexis obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Pennsylvania State University in Global Politics and Pre-Law Studies with a Human Ecological Approach. In recognition of outstanding academic performance, Alexis was selected to serve as Student Marshal for the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences at graduation.

Alexis has served as an intern for Tim Holden, former U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 17th Congressional District and worked as a Mediator in the Office of the PA Auditor's General. She has worked as the Editorial Assistant to the CEO of Rodale Institute and traveled to El Salvador with Penn State Engineers for a Suitable World to develop water systems. She explored agriculture and urban farming through the World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms. Alexis worked as a naturalist at Ferry Beach School of Ecology in Saco, Maine and a Community Resource Specialist at Berks Community Action Program.

Alexis is a Permaculture Designer through the Center for Bioregional Living in New York. She is certified as a teacher of Permaculture and is trained in Asset-based Community Development. She has a background in sustainable agriculture and training from Rodale Institute. She has been working in regenerative science for the past eight years and has ten years of experience in Human Services. Alexis is an avid supporter of efforts to build capacity for sustainability efforts within the City of Reading.

She is the owner of Root and Branch: Design for Living by Alexis Campbell.

Alexis attended Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, and was a member of Junior Choir, the Christmas Pageant and GOYA. Alexis volunteered with Church ministries including the emergency shelter, Habitat for Humanity and the bazaar.

# CARE

**Robert**
**1951-2014**

**Maria (Dialectos)**
**1951-**

Maria (Dialectos) Care is the daughter of George and Joanne Dialectos. She is the sister of Athan Dialectos and Angel Helm. Maria is a 1969 graduate of Reading High School and was the first child in her family to ever attend college. Maria attended college at the The University of Pennsylvania and graduated in 1974. She is currently a Physical Therapist for the Berks Visiting Nurse Association.

In 1973, she married Robert Lee Care, son of Carl and Cecilia Care. Bob graduated from New York University in 1973. He owned and operated MAACO Auto Painting and Bodyworks in Berks County until he sold it in the early 80's. He then went on to specialize in the real estate industry where he maintained his business as a real estate developer until his death in 2014. Bob was chrismated in July, 2014. May his memory be eternal.

Bob and Maria have three children: Juliane Lane, (37) married to Jeffrey Lane and parents to Noah, Griffin and Georgia; Derek (33), a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Columbia Law School; and Timothy (29), a graduate of St Joseph's University.

Maria served on the Philoptochos Society and the Church Choir for both St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church and Sts. Constantine and Helen.

# CARLEY

**Christopher**
**1926-**

**Anna (Sofianos)**
**1928-**

Christopher was born in Reading, PA on January 5, 1926. He graduated from Reading High School in 1944, and served in the US Navy during World War II. Christopher obtained an Associate's Degree in Business from Reading Area Community College. He was the owner of Carley's Confectionary located on Douglass Street in Reading, PA.

Anna Sofianos Carley was born on November 7, 1928 in Wyomissing, PA. She graduated from Reading High School in 1946. Prior to their marriage Anna worked as an office clerk at CNA and at Forest Hills Memorial Park. She also worked alongside Christopher at Carley's Confectionary.

Christopher and Anna were married in 1954, and are the proud parents of their wonderful daughter Crisanne Bansner, who is married to Scott Bansner.

Christopher was bestowed the honor of Ecclesiarch, an officer of the Orthodox Church who is charged with the care of the Church. Christopher serves as an esteemed advisor to our altar boys helping them to learn the responsibilities of serving. Every Sunday and most Feast Days you can find Christopher in the Sanctuary of the Church lovingly and meticulously preparing every detail for the Church services. In recent years, Christopher was honored at a Grand Banquet for Service to Saints Constantine and Helen.

Anna sang as a member of the Hellenic Choral Society. Both Anna and Christopher are members of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, with Christopher having the distinction of being the only male member. They also volunteered in the Church office.

Christopher and Anna volunteered for over thirty years at St. Joseph's Hospital; Christopher managed the distribution of medication to patients while Anna cheerfully directed visitors at the front desk of the hospital and made deliveries for the pharmacy. Christopher was the president and long standing member of the Rotary Club of Northeast Reading, volunteered with the 12th Ward Crime Watch and was an active Mason.

Christopher and Anna are a devoted couple who demonstrate their love of the Lord in their interactions with others and through service to our Lord and Orthodox Faith.

# CARNOLES

**Peter**
**1894-1987**

**Despina (Hadjipavlis)**
**1902-1997**

Peter "Karniagotos" Carnoles was born in Edremit, Turkey in 1894. He immigrated to America in 1916. Peter was a member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and an active member of the Greek American Progressive Association (GAPA). Peter was employed at the Berkshire Knitting Mills.

Despina (Hadjipavlis) was born in 1902 in Eressos, Mytilene, Greece. She had the distinguished honor of being the first president of the Ladies Cleo Lodge of the GAPA. Despina was employed by the David Crystal Dress Manufacturing Company.

Peter and Despina were married on September 14, 1920. They had five children: Vasiliki, Virginia, Elizabeth, Lula, and Mary. Their daughters grew up in the church and were very active in many of the organizations throughout their lives. Virginia married John Dillworth and had three daughters. Elizabeth married William Zeswitz and has 2 daughters. Lula married Richard Goodhart and has 2 children. Mary married Chris Pettis and has 2 children. There are now 9 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Peter passed away in 1987 and Despina passed away in 1997. May their memory be eternal.

# CHAKNOS

**Constantine "Gust" M.**
**1922-1992**

**Isabel V. (Gannes)**
**1921-2013**

Gust Chaknos was born on November 25, 1922 in New York to Michael and Eftihia Chaknos. However, he spent most of his boyhood life in Lancaster, PA where he met his wife, Isabel. He served in the infantry during World War II in the European Theater and was a surviving prisoner of war. After the war, he and Isabel relocated to Wyomissing, PA where he worked for Textile Machine Works which eventually became Arrow International.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Gust served St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church as the Superintendent of Sunday School. He was also a long standing member of the AHEPA. Gust passed away in February, 1992.

Isabel V. (Gannes) Chaknos was born in 1921 in Ambridge, PA to Vasilios and Alexandra Gannes. Like her husband, Gust, she spent almost her entire childhood and early adulthood in Lancaster, PA. She was a member of the St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Reading, PA. She also was a founding member of the Daughters of Penelope, a Greek women's organization affiliated with the Annunciation Church in Lancaster, PA and was a long standing member of the Philoptochos Society.

Isabel was a school teacher for more than 25 years primarily in the Wyomissing Area School District. She received a "Teacher of the Year" honor while teaching in the Lancaster School District. Her other accomplishments included being the first Greek American woman from the Lancaster area to get a Bachelor of Arts degree from Millersville College as well as being one of the few women from Lancaster to get a post graduate degree from Duke University. She passed away on November 21, 2013.

# CHAKNOS

**Michael Constantine**
**1950-**

**Karen (Hammerschmidt)**
**1950-**

Michael Constantine Chaknos was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on February 24, 1950. He is the son of Gust and Isabel Chaknos, whose parents immigrated to the United States from the island of Kos and Epiros, Greece. Michael is a graduate of Wyomissing High School. He graduated from Dickinson College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He went into Real Estate right after college and opened his own business in 1976. Presently he is owner and partner of Century 21 Park Road Realtors.

Karen (Hammerschmidt) Chaknos was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on February 28, 1950. She is the daughter of Heinz and Flo Hammerschmidt. Karen graduated from Wyomissing High School. She graduated from University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education and from Kutztown University with a Master's Degree in Education. She was a teacher for five years in the Schuylkill School District before leaving to raise a family. Karen was a substitute teacher for nine years starting in 1989.

Mike and Karen were married on January 28, 1973. They have three adult children: Christina Weeber, Dr. Constantine Michael Chaknos, and Mark A. Chaknos. All three children are graduates of Penn State University. Michael and Karen have two grandchildren.

Michael attended Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox as a child. He attended Sunday School and was an altar boy. He was a member of GOYA. Michael has been on the Parish Council and Bazaar Committee and was a past co-chair of the Stewardship Committee. He is a member of the Centennial Celebration Committee. He is currently a member of the William Penn Chapter No. 61 Order of AHEPA.

Karen was chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 1973. She is a former Sunday School teacher. Karen is a member of the Second Choir and the Philoptochos Society, where she served as Recording Secretary from 2006-2013. She is also a past member of the Junior League of Reading.

Both Michael and Karen are active in the community. Michael was a member of the committee that started the Mifflin Community Library and was a past President of the Greater Reading Board of Realtors. Karen has been involved the Governor Mifflin School District in various areas of volunteering in the classrooms and with the PTO.

# CHAKNOS

**Constantine Michael**
**1980-**

**Kelly (Victory)**
**1983-**

Constantine Michael Chaknos was born on January 14, 1980 and is the son of Michael and Karen Chaknos and brother to Christina Chaknos Weeber and Mark Chaknos.

Michael attended Sts. Constantine & Helen Sunday School since Kindergarten and later was an Altar boy during his junior and senior high school years. Michael received an Orthodox Youth Award after his senior year.

Michael attended Governor Mifflin schools, graduating in 1998 and then moving on to Penn State University graduating with a pre-med degree in 2002. He attended Jefferson Medical School and then moved to Boston to complete his medical training at Tufts University Hospital. Michael then returned to Philadelphia to enter a 3 year Fellowship Program in Nephrology at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital. He is currently on staff at Penn in the Department of Nephrology.

Kelly (Victory) Chaknos was born on September 8, 1983 in Essex, England. She is the daughter of Chris and Kate Victory. Kelly has one brother, Brendan, who is currently serving in the U.S. Army. Kelly moved to New Jersey when she was entering Kindergarten. She graduated from Lenape High School in 2001, then went on to St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia and graduated in 2005 with a teaching degree. She is currently teaching 3rd grade in New Jersey.

Michael and Kelly were married on July 26, 2014 in St. George's Greek Orthodox Church in Philadelphia. They currently reside in Wayne, PA.

# CHAKNOS

**Mark Alexander**
**1984-**

**Katie Lynne (Fick)**
**1985-**

Mark Alexander Chaknos was born on October 29, 1984 and is the son of Michael and Karen Chaknos and younger brother to C. Michael Chaknos and Christina Chaknos Weeber. Mark attended Governor Mifflin schools from Kindergarten – 12th grade. Mark was one of the first children to attend Sts. Constantine & Helen's nursery class when his mother, Karen, and Presbytera Ann Pappalas formed the class for this age group. Mark was also an Altar boy during his junior and senior high school years.

Mark attended Penn State University and graduated in 2007 with a degree in Communications. After a few years working in retail car sales, Mark received his real estate license. Currently, he is a Broker-Realtor with Century 21 Park Road in Wyomissing.

Katie Fick Chaknos was born on October 8, 1985 and is the daughter of Michael and Debbie Fick. She also attended and graduated from Governor Mifflin High School. Katie is a graduate of Penn State University with a degree in Special Education. She is currently an Elementary Life Skills teacher in the Governor Mifflin School District.

Mark and Katie were married on November 2, 2013 in Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They currently reside in Wyomissing.

# CHERI

**Marian**
**1942-**

Marian was born in Reading in 1942 to Frank and Mary (Hatzas) Cheri, who were also born in Reading. Her father was born in 1917 and died in 1980; he had retired from the Reading Railroad. Her mother was born in 1928 and died in 2008; she had worked at the Berkshire Knitting Mills.

Marian graduated from Reading Senior High School. She is currently retired, but prior to her retirement she worked for Bell Atlantic in a managerial position.

Marian is the granddaughter of Nickolas and Aphrodite Hatzas, who emigrated from Turkey. Marian learned to understand and speak Greek when she was a little girl because that was the only language that Yiayia and Pappou spoke when Marian was with them, which was often. Pappou Nickolas died when Marian was only six years old, but she still has happy memories of the many walks that they took together, of stories he told her of life in Turkey, and of the songs he sang to her in the Turkish language. Yiayia Aphrodite was an excellent cook and baker; it was from her that Marian learned to bake Greek desserts and to cook Greek entrees and side dishes. In addition to learning Greek from her maternal grandparents, Marian attended Greek school.

Marian's brothers, George and Lewis, are also deceased. George graduated from Reading Senior High School and worked as a registered plumber prior to his death. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, who is also a Reading Senior High School graduate. Lewis passed away into eternal life at the young age of 15.

Marian has been an active member of the congregation. She has worked diligently at a number of the past bazaars held by the church. She is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and has also served as one of the society's past presidents. Marian is a member of the Philoptochos's "Shut-in Visitation" committee that visit parishioners who are in nursing homes and retirement communities, the home-bound, and those convalescing. Committee members take koulourakia, a flowering plant, and sometimes a knitted item to the shut-ins during the Christmas and Easter holiday. She is also the force behind the annual Easter egg preparations.

# CHOUMBAKOS

**Harry**
**1906-1997**

**Bessie (Patsourakos)**
**1916-1988**

Harry Choumbakos was born in 1906 on the island of Lesbos, Greece. The son of Socrates and Marianthe Choumbakos, he immigrated with his family to the United States in 1912. Harry attended the Reading public schools and subsequently found employment in the restaurant business. In the church, Harry was a member of the Parish Council. In 1972, Harry returned to Nea Loutsa, Atticus, where he remained until his death in 1997.

Bessie was born in 1916 in Reading, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Spiros and Maria Patsourakos. Her family was originally from Gythion, Pelopenese, and returned to Konakia, Greece in 1921. They eventually came back to the United States in 1927. Bessie attended the Reading public schools but left in the 7th grade to find work in the knitting mills. She remained employed in the garment industry for more than 40 years. As a parishioner, Bessie volunteered her time as a Philoptochos member and pastry baker. Bessie passed away in Reading on April 1, 1988.

Harry and Bessie were married in 1940 and had two children: Despina M. (Choumbakos) Green, who was born in 1941; and Socrates H. Choumbakos, who was born in 1944.

# CHOUMBAKOS

**Socrates**
**1944-**

Socrates Choumbakos was born on September 18, 1944 in Brooklyn, New York. His father, Harry Choumbakos, was born on the island of Lesbos and returned to Nea Loutsa, Atticus, in 1972. His mother, Bessie (Patsourakos) Choumbakos hailed from Gythion, Peleponese.

Socrates graduated from Lehigh University in 1966 with a B.S. in Business Adminstration (Accounting). He is also a 1986 graduate of the Executive Program in Strategic Management at Columbia University. Socrates is a Corporate Executive and Consultant for Corporate Development and Finance in life sciences, biotech and diagnostic companies.

An active member of AHEPA since 2003, he has served as Treasurer and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, as well as Volunteer Leader for renovation, repairs and painting crews.

Married in April 1985, Socrates is the proud father of two daughters: Emily Suzanne, born June 3, 1986 in Asheville, North Carolina; and Maggie (Choumbakos) Grindrod, born February 10, 1988 in Washington, D.C. Emily holds an Associate's degree in Psychology from Asheville Buncombe Technical College, and Maggie graduated from Wake Forest University with a B.A. in Theater.

# CHUPAK

**Daniel Henry**
**1956-**

**Demetria (Zaharis)**
**1957-**

Daniel Chupak was born in Shenandoah, PA and is a graduate of Mahanoy Area High School. He attended Penn State University, St. Joseph's School of Medical Technology and Kutztown University. He is employed in the Information Technology business.

Demetria was born in Reading. She graduated from Shenandoah Valley High School, and graduated from Penn State University and Kutztown University. She is a Reading Specialist and Elementary School Teacher.

They have two children: Joshua and Christian, both graduates of Muhlenberg High School and Penn State University.

Daniel has served on the Parish Council as Secretary, he was a Sunday School Teacher, a member of the choir, an Epistle reader, and active with the Church Library.

Demetria has been a Sunday School Teacher, Co-Director of the Vacation Bible School and a Teacher, the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, Church Library and AGLOW. Demetria is also a member of the Reading Recovery Council of North America and the International Reading Association.

# CHUPAK

**Joshua Peter**
**1983-**

Joshua was born in Reading, PA on September 14, 1983 and graduated from Muhlenberg High School in 2002. In high school, Joshua played trumpet in the concert and jazz bands. He threw the discus and javelin for the track and field team. Joshua attended the Pennsylvania State University, Altoona and he graduated from the Smeal College of Business at Pennsylvania State University, University Park in 2006 with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance. He works for Lockheed Martin in Manassas, Virginia as a Senior Financial Analyst. Joshua resides in Fairfax, Virginia.

Joshua attended Sunday School from the Nursery to Grade 12. He regularly served as an Altar Boy and sang in the Junior Choir. He enjoyed Vacation Bible School, GOYA, and volunteered at the Emergency Shelter. As a senior in high school, Joshua had the honor of carrying the Resurrection Wreath during the Midnight Service at Easter.

Joshua is the sponsor and Nouno of Ethan Christian Chupak who was baptized at Sts. Constantine and Helen Church on September 29, 2013.

# CHUPAK

**Christian Daniel**
**1985-**

**Jennifer Nicole (Bailey)**
**1986-**

Christian was born in Reading, PA on May 2, 1985 and graduated from Muhlenberg High School in 2004. In high school, he was a musician playing the tuba in the marching and concert bands. He was a talented bass guitarist in the jazz band and for high school plays. Christian attended Pennsylvania State University Altoona and University Park, where he studied Information Technology. He played bass guitar in the Penn State Altoona jazz band. Christian works for East Penn Manufacturing as an Information Technologist.

Jennifer was born in Reading, PA on November 18, 1986 and graduated from Muhlenberg High School in 2005. In high school, she was active in track, field hockey, and chorus. Jennifer graduated from Kutztown University in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Speech and Language Pathology. She received her Master's Degree in School Based Speech and Language Pathology from Bloomsburg University in 2013. Jennifer works at the Berks County Intermediate Unit as an Early Intervention Speech and Language Pathologist.

Christian attended Sunday School from the Nursery to Grade 12. He faithfully served as an Altar Boy and sang in the Junior Choir. He enjoyed Vacation Bible School, GOYA, and volunteered at the Emergency Shelter. As a senior in high school, Christian had the honor of carrying the Resurrection Wreath during the Midnight Service at Easter and he portrayed Joseph during the Christmas Pageant.

Christian and Jennifer were married at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church on July 11, 2009. Jennifer converted to Orthodoxy in 2009, as well. They are very proud parents of Ethan Christian who was born on July 4, 2013. Ethan was baptized at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church on September 29, 2013 with Joshua Peter Chupak as his sponsor and Nouno.

# CICERO

**James**
**19??-**

**Vanessa (Medaglia)**
**1985-**

Vanessa (Medaglia) Cicero was born on March 21, 1985, in Havre de Grace, Md.

She is the granddaughter of, and raised by, Dawn (Pezdirc) and Larry Medaglia Sr.

Vanessa graduated from Wyomissing High School in June 2003, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education (with honors) from Penn State University in 2007, and is currently working toward a Master's Degree in Education in Utah.

She resides in Salt Lake City, Utah, with her husband Jim and teaches Elementary grades in one of the schools there.

She completed K through 12 in Sts. Constantine and Helen Sunday School – with perfect attendance. She was a member of JOY and GOYA, a regular attendee of Greek School, attended Camp Nazareth, and was a recipient of Philoptochos and AHEPA scholarships.

Vanessa and Jim met while both attended Penn State University. Jim is a native of the Erie, PA area, and a graduate mechanical engineer. They were married in Reading, PA on November 13, 2011. They resided for a while in the Norfolk, VA area, where Jim worked as an engineer for Grumman and Vanessa taught school. Shortly after their wedding, Jim accepted a position with an international manufacturer of mining equipment, necessitating their relocation to the Salt Lake City area.

# COMINS

**Constantine P.**
**1926-2014**

**Mary (Tabakelis)**
**1930-2012**

Constantine "Gus" Comins was born in Birdsboro, PA. He graduated from Reading High School, received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Emory University and his Master of Science from Franklin and Marshall College. He retired after 36 years of service at Lucent Technologies (formerly Western Electric).

Mary was born in Reading. She attended Greek School. They were married in 1952 by Rev. James Aloupis. She was a former member of the Philoptochos Society.

Gus has been formerly active around the church over the years as he served on various committees and organizations. He was also a member of the Parish Council and served as its corresponding Secretary in 1956.

He was also a former member of several professional, civic and fraternal organizations: The Order of AHEPA, the Masonic Order and President of the Reading Chemists Club.

They had four children: JoAnne (Rick), Marian (Drveker), Constance (Coleman) and Jayme, and six grandchildren.

Mary passed away in 2012; Gus passed away in 2014. May their memory be eternal.

# CRASSAS

**Thomas**
**1982-**

**Maria (Elliker)**
**1983-**

Thomas Athanasios Crassas was born in Silver Springs, Maryland, on December 4, 1982 to James and Georgia (Glekas) Crassas. After graduating in 2000 from Saint John's High School in Washington D.C., Thomas earned a B.S. degree from the University of Maryland, a M.S. from George Washington University, and a PhD in Physical Therapy from the Shenandoah University. Thomas has practiced as a physical therapist in the Washington D.C. area and is currently practicing at The Rehab Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Maria J. (Elliker) Crassas was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania on January 14, 1983, the daughter of Deacon James and Argyro Stroumbakis Elliker. Maria graduated from Fleetwood High School in 2001 and from Penn State University, where she earned a B.S. in Education. She later earned her M. Ed from Johns Hopkins University and her PhD from the University of Maryland. Maria has taught at both the elementary school and university level and has written material for professional journals and books. Whenever possible, Maria enjoys incorporating her musical education through singing.

Both Maria and Thomas enjoy volunteer work. Maria has helped with Vacation Bible School at our church and has provided literacy opportunities for struggling families at Water Street Ministries in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Thomas enjoys being a mentor at the Hope Rescue Mission. Both Maria and Thomas have been active in missionary work in Mexico and Guatemala and have served as youth leaders for YES trips through FOCUS North America.

Thomas and Maria Crassas were married in our church on August 22, 2009 and have a beautiful son, James, who is currently one year old.

# DALAVERIS

**Dimitrios**
**1898-1966**

**Eleni (Boyiatzis)**
**1923-**

Dimitrios was born January 15, 1898 in Agia Paraskevi, Lesvos. In 1926 he came to the United States to live with his brother Alcebiades. With only a primary education, he started working in restaurants at a young age and after learning several different jobs in the restaurant business he eventually worked his way up and became a chef. He went back to Greece to marry Eleni in 1952.

Eleni was born July 12, 1923 in Agia Paraskevi, Lesvos. She received her primary education in her hometown. After marrying Dimitrios they immigrated to the United States on April 21, 1955. After the unfortunate death of her husband, and becoming a young widow with three small children, Eleni became employed by Letisse in order to support her family. Eleni's strong faith in God and her own determination helped her keep her family together. She is an active member of Philoptochos and also volunteers at the church bazaar and bake sale. She also assists with the production and distribution of The Community Echo. Additionally, Eleni was previously named "Mother of the Year" by the church.

Dimitrios and Eleni had three children: Louis, Laura and Marian. Louis graduated from Reading High School, Columbia University and Johns Hopkins Medical School. Currently, Louis is an ophthalmologist and practices in New York City. Laura graduated from Reading High School, attended Reading Area Community College and received certifications in telecommunications from Drexel University. Marian graduated from Reading High School and Allentown Business School. Eleni also has two grandsons and one granddaughter.

# DALAVERIS

**Dr. Louis "Efstratios"**
**1953-**

Louis "Efstratios" Dalaveris was born in Myteline, Greece, on September 15, 1953. the son of Eleni "Helen" and Dimitrios "James" Dalaveris. He immigrated with his parents to Reading, PA at the age of 2, and grew up in the Greek community, where he attended Sunday School, Greek School, and also participated in GOYA, Choir, and served as an Altar boy.

He attended schools in Reading, where he developed an interest in many subjects, including science, languages and music, especially the piano, which he first played at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church when it was located at 8th and Court streets in Reading.

He was a winner of a language contest sponsored by the German government, and had the opportunity to study in Germany while at Reading High School. He also played with the Reading Symphony at the same time.

After graduating from Reading High School in 1971, Louis attended Columbia University, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry in 1975. Afterwards, he attended Johns Hopkins Medical School, earning his medical degree in 1979, followed by a residency in Ophthalmology.

He has practiced ophthalmology in New York City for many years, having many Greek patients.

Louis has continued to explore his interest in music, participating in many amateur festivals and competitions, and was the first prize winner of the Piano Bridges Competition in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 2012.

# DAMORE

**Anthony, Jr.**
**1956-**

**Maria (Flamporis)**
**1962-**

Anthony was born in 1956, the son of Mildred and Anthony Damore, Sr. He graduated from Alvernia University with his B.S. in Criminal Justice and is a Deputy Sheriff with the County of Berks.

Maria was born in 1962 the daughter of Demetrios and Photini Flamporis. She received her B.A. in English/Psychology from Immaculata University and her M.S. in Administration from West Chester University. She is a professional vocalist and actress and an Information Systems Specialist with HealthSouth Reading Rehabilitation Hospital.

Maria and Anthony were married in 1988 and they have two children: Olivia, a student at West Chester University, and James, a student at Exeter Township Senior High School. Olivia was a member of the Junior Choir, the Choir, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and the Greek Dance Troup. James was also a member of the Junior Choir, an Altar Boy, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and Greek Dance Troupe, and has also served as substitute organist.

Anthony is a member of the Fraternal Order of Policy, Lodge #71, and the Masonic Lodge #660. Maria, along with her brother Stavros Flamporis, have performed Greek Music for our Church's Annual Food Bazaar for over 15 years.

Maria is involved in Community and Professional Theatre groups, including: Reading Civic Theatre, Genesius Theatre, Alpha Omega Players, Yocum Institute Primary Stages, Gretna Theatre, Bristol Riverside Theatre, Berks Opera Workshop, and Concert Opera of Philadelphia. Maria has just released her first CD, entitled "Moonglow."

# DASTRA

**Anthony**
**1917-2009**

**Lula (Hatzas)**
**1921-**

Anthony Dastra was born in Reading, PA on January 11, 1917 and passed into eternity on April 13, 2009. Lula Hatzas was born in Reading on May 8, 1921. She graduated from Reading High School and Libby Starr Beauty School and became the owner and operator of her own beauty salon. Lula has been a long-time member of Philoptochos, serving as Vice-President. She also enjoys volunteering at the church bazaar.

Lula is extremely proud of her two children: Marcia and James. Marcia Dastra Darcourt graduated from Kutztown University and works as an elementary school teacher. James also graduated from Kutztown University and works as a pilot.

# DAVLANTES

**Steve**
**1928-2013**

**Irene (Fournaris)**
**1935-**

Irene was born in Reading in September 1935, the younger daughter of Nick and Thalia (Yianoulis) Fournaris, who immigrated to the United States from Kos, Greece. Irene is the younger sister of Hariklia, wife of Christ Zervanos, Harrisburg, PA. Irene graduated from Reading High School and the McCann Business School and held numerous administrative positions within local firms, including Marvin Reber Collection Agency and Garrett Buchanan Paper Company. Following her marriage to Steve, Irene moved to Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan, where she worked as a secretary for Assumption Greek Orthodox Church.

Irene is the widow of Steve Davlantes, who was born in 1928 in Detroit, Michigan to Alexander and Katini Davlantes, immigrants from Sparta, Greece. A graduate of Wayne State University, Steve forged a distinguished career in the field of education. He worked as a grade school physical education teacher and later served as Assistant Principal of Adult Education in Highland Park and also as Director of the Adult Education Program.

Prior to her marriage and relocation to the Detroit area, Irene was an active member of our parish, having served as Sunday School teacher under the direction of Gus Chaknos. She was also a member of the choir and of the Daughters of Penelope. Now retired, Irene volunteers her time in the office of her current parish. Similarly, Steve was an active member of his church throughout his life, having served as President of the church council. He was also a member of the church choir.

Irene and Steve had no children of their own but throughout their lives have enjoyed a close and loving relationship with numerous, nephews, nieces and godchildren.

# DELP

**John**
**1955-**

**Laura (Dalaveris)**
**1956-**

John Delp was born in Harrisburg on October 2, 1955, to the Rev. Lawrence and Margie Delp. John married Laura Dalaveris on November 4, 2000, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. The couple resides in Fleetwood.

Laura Dalaveris was born in Reading on February 5, 1956, to Helen and James Dalaveris. She graduated from Reading High School in 1974 and began working for Bell of Pennsylvania in Pottstown.

She attended courses at Reading Area Community College and Drexel University, where she received various certifications in telecommunications through Bell Atlantic. She worked mostly in the Philadelphia area and retired from Verizon as a Systems Engineer in 2007.

Laura's involvements in our church organizations include Greek School, Sunday School, GOYA, Junior Choir and the Philoptochos.

John graduated from Mount Penn High School in 1973 and then served an apprenticeship as a pattern maker. He attended classes at the American Foundry Society Institute in Chicago.

John was self-employed as a pattern maker/furniture maker for 15 years. His work was displayed in the Smithsonian Institute for nine months. In the past 15 years, he has been working on historic restorations of Chester County Main Line Estates.

# DENNE

**Despina**
**1950-**

Despina, the second of the three children of Theofrastos and Fotoula (DiRocco) Ioannidi, was born in Aversa, Italy in 1950. She immigrated to the United States in 1956 with her parents and older brother John, and the family made its home in downtown Reading. Despina attended the Reading public schools and graduated with honors from both Reading High School in 1968 and Kutztown University in 1974, where she received a B.S. in Elementary Education. She forged a successful career in the field of Industrial Health, Safety, and Environmental Compliance, having been employed by Exide Corporation as Hazardous Waste Administrator and Associate Director of Environmental Services from 1980 to 1994, and by Arkema, Inc. as Sr. Environmental Engineer and HES Specialist from 1995 to 2009, at which time she retired.

An active member of our Church parish, Despina attended Sunday School and Greek School and was a member of the GOYA and the Church Choir. She has been involved in the St. Xenia Chapter of the Ladies Philoptochos Society for many years, serving as a Board member, Recording Secretary and most recently as its 25th President. She is the first member of our parish to be appointed to the National Board of the Ladies Philoptochos Society. Additionally, in 2013 His Eminence Metropolitan Savas appointed Despina to serve on his Council for the Metropolis of Pittsburgh. Despina was also a member of the former Daughters of Penelope chapter in Reading.

A lifelong proponent of volunteerism, Despina has been involved in numerous community organizations, including the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program from 1986 to 1998 and the former Rainbow Home, a residential facility for AIDS patients, from 1996 to 1999.

Despina was married to Alan R. Denne, who passed away in 2004, and is the proud stepmother to Carrie, Gregory and Rachel, all of Virginia, as well as grandmother to four wonderful grandchildren.

# DESANTIS

**Michael**
**1943-2015**

**Cleo (Skias)**
**1941-**

Michael DeSantis was born in Reading, PA in 1943. He graduated from Wilson High School and holds a Master's Degree from Indiana University Bloomington. Michael was a Professor at Alvernia University until his death in 2015.

Cleo (Skias) DeSantis was also born in Reading, PA in 1941. She is the daughter of Theodore Skias (born in Asia Minor) and Helen Ziavras (born in Lowell Mass; her father was from Sparta, Greece). Cleo graduated from Reading High School and is retired from Rhoda, Stoudt & Bradley law firm.

Michael and Cleo have a son, Christian DeSantis (age 44) who is a graduate of Albright College.

# DIALECTOS

**Thomas "Athanasios"**
**1887-1972**

**Angeliki (Kostomeris)**
**1907-1960**

Athanasios was born in 1887 in the Village of Papiana on the Island of Lesvos, Greece. He immigrated to the United States in 1907 and settled in Reading, PA. He served his adopted country in World War I, and, upon his return, became interested in the fruit and vegetable business. Starting out with only a fruit push cart, he eventually built his business and founded Tom's Fruit Store. He owned and operated the store at 242 North Ninth Street for 30 years.

As one of the earlier Greeks settlers in Reading, he took a keen interest in the establishment of our local Greek Church and Community. Since his store was in the heart of the Greek area of the city, it became an integral part of everyday Greek life in the Community. He also was a member of the local chapters of the GAPA and the American Legion.

Athanasios married the former Angeliki Kostomeris in 1924. Angeliki emigrated from the Village of Polichnitos, Lesvos, Greece in 1922 with her uncle Harry Karetas and his family, and quickly made her way to Reading. Athanasios and Angeliki had five children: Stella (Kraras), George, Effie (Parenti), Anna (Koumaras), and Harry. They also were blessed with 13 grandchildren. They built a strong family unit, one based on tradition and pride in their Greek heritage.

Angeliki died in 1960 and Athanasios died in 1972. May their memory be eternal.

# DIALECTOS

**George**
**1926-2003**

**Joanne (Katsanis)**
**1931-**

George was born in Reading, PA and was a graduate of Reading High School. At a very young age, he began working in his father's (Athanasios Dialectos) grocery store, Tom's Fruit and Produce Store, a landmark in the city for over 50 years. Eventually he took over the proprietorship of the store, first with his brother, Harry and then he operated the successful business on his own until his retirement in 1994.

In 1950, George went to Greece where he met and married Joanne, nee Katsanis. After returning to Reading, they began their family. They have three children: Maria, wife of Robert Care; Athan, married to Gretchen (Harford); and Angel-Lee, married to Scott Helm. They have nine grandchildren; Juliane, Derek and Timothy Care; Jordan, Adam and Rachel Dialectos; and Austin, Grayson and Joanna Helm. In addition they have three great-grandchildren; Noah, Griffin and Georgia Lane, the children of Juliane and Jeff Lane.

In addition to their Reading venture, George and Joanne were partners with Michael and Anna Koumaras at the Wingate Motel, Wildwood, New Jersey. They joyfully operated the motel together for over 25 years. It was sold in 1998.

George served as President and was a member of the Parish Council of St. Matthew's Church for many years. He was a dedicated member of both St. Matthew's and Sts. Constantine and Helen, always volunteering his assistance in any way possible. He was a loving and caring husband, father and grandfather always. He passed into eternal life in 2003.

Joanne too was a dedicated member of St. Matthew's Church where she served as President of the Philoptochos Ladies Society. She continues to be a very active member and volunteer at Sts. Constantine and Helen today. For both George and Joanne, the Church was always the center of their lives and a source of much happiness and joy.

# DIALECTOS

**Athan**
**1959-**

**Gretchen (Harford)**
**1960-**

Athan Dialectos is the son of George and Joanne Dialectos, brother of Maria Care and Angel Helm. He graduated from Reading High in 1977 and attended Shippensburg College. He has owned and operated MAACO Auto Painting and Bodyworks for over 25 years in the Berks County area.

In 1983, he married Gretchen Harford, daughter of Donald Harford and Nancy Servent. Athan and Gretchen have three children: Jordan (29), a graduate of West Chester University; Adam (27), a graduate of James Madison University and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and is currently in his medical residency as an Orthopedic Surgeon in Philadelphia; and Rachel (24), a graduate of Virginia Tech University and veterinary student at The Royal Dick School of Veterinary Medicine, Edinburgh Scotland, United Kingdom.

Athan is an active volunteer at Sts. Constantine and Helen as well as a faithful member of the Parish Council at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church. Athan has served on the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine and Helen for many years and has served as Chairman and Co-Chairman of our annual food bazaar. He is also a member of the local AHEPA chapter. Gretchen was a member of the Philoptochos Ladies Society as well as a member of the Choir at St. Matthew's.

# DIALECTOS

**Harry**
**1937-**

**Christine Joy (Becker)**
**1943-**

Harry Dialectos was born in Reading on January 12, 1937 to Athanasios and Angeliki (Kostomeris) Dialectos. His father was among the first Greek immigrants to settle in Reading, around 1909. His mother came to Reading in 1920. Harry graduated from Reading High School and went to work in the grocery store business, and later as a real estate agent.

Christine was born in Reading on December 12, 1943 to LeRoy and Elsie (Noll) Becker. Christine graduated from RMTS Nursing School in 1982 with top honors. She is a member of the Philoptochos and the Church Choir. She was a Sunday School teacher in the 1970s. She helps run the church Bookstore and, with Dawn Medaglia, serves on the Welcoming Committee. She is membership chairwoman of the Berks County Armed Forces Advisory Committee and co-produces and hosts "Tales of World War II" on BCTV. She is also a liaison to the Veterans History Project for the Library of Congress.

Harry and Christine were married on October 20, 1963. The couple resides in Wyomissing and has two sons, Thenson and Mark. Harry owned Tom's Fruit Store, where he was a partner with his brother, George, for 18 years, and the Village Food Market in West Wyomissing.

Harry has served on the Parish Council for the past 35 years, including six terms as Vice-President and six terms as President. He has served on numerous church committees and has served as chairman of the Greek Food Bazaar, where he continues to be responsible for ordering all the food products and supplies. In 2000, Harry was honored as Father of the Year. In 2012, he was honored as the Outstanding Male Volunteer. Harry also launched the Grocery Gift Card Fundraiser Program for the Church and has managed it since 2000. He is a member of the Reading AHEPA chapter and was president of the Lions Club for 2 years. He also serves on the Berks County Armed Forces Advisory Committee.

# DIALECTOS

**Mark L.**
**1966-**

**Mary M. (Zervanos)**
**1968-**

Mark Dialectos was born in Reading on June 28, 1966, to Harry and Christine Dialectos. He graduated from Wilson High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Logistics from Penn State University in 1988. He has worked for several area banks, most recently as a Vice President at M&T Bank.

Mark served in Altar and was a member of GOYA, where he was President in 1983-84, and YAL. He served on the Parish Council from 1995-2005, including a term as Vice President in 2001, and is a member of the Choir. Mark served as co-chairman of the Greek Food Bazaar from 2001-2005 and again in 2014. He is a member the Reading AHEPA and served on the Centennial Celebration Committee. In the community, Mark serves on the Planning & Resource Committee for United Way, as a volunteer at Berks Mentoring Program and serves on the Lancaster County Multiple Sclerosis Leadership Council.

Mary was born in Bellefonte, PA on December 5, 1968, to Stamatis M. and Joyce (Baxewanis) Zervanos. She graduated from Wyomissing High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in English with a Minor in Secondary Education from Penn State University in 1986. She received a Juris Doctor of Law Degree from The Dickenson School of Law in 1993 and went to work as an attorney for Zervanos Law Offices in Reading.

Mary was a member of GOYA, where she was vice president in 1985-86, and YAL and Junior Choir, both church Choirs, where she is the assistant/substitute choir director, and served as Congregational Singing Leader. She was a Sunday School teacher and the Bell Choir Director. She is a member of the Philoptochos. In the community, Mary is a member of the Junior League of Reading, the Reading Choral Society, Berks Youth Chorus Board of Directors, American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association, Berks County Bar Association and a volunteer for the Wyomissing Area Drama Club.

Mark and Mary were married on February 19, 1994. The couple resides in Wyomissing.

The couple has two daughters, Jocelyn Mary, born November 23, 1997, and Karissa Ann, born January 31, 2000. Both attend Wyomissing Area Junior/Senior High School and are involved in GOYA, both church Choirs, Bazaar Ticket Chairperson Assistants and past members of the Greek School, JOY and Junior Choir.

# DIKOS

**Stergios**
**1937-2010**

**Cornilia (Katsanis)**
**1938-**

Cornilia Dikos was born June 16, 1938 in Mytilene, Greece to Panagiotis and Maria (Pappas) Katsanis of Polichnitos, Lesvos. Her mother passed away when Cornilia was young and she was lovingly raised by her step-mother, Rallou Katsanis. The family owned a store in Mytilene and lived on a farm in Polichnitos, Lesvos.

Cornilia immigrated to the United States in 1956. She worked at the Berkshire Knitting Mills while furthering her education with a High School Diploma and Beautician School Certification. She opened her own Beauty Shop out of the first floor of her home on Perkiomen Avenue in Reading. Later, she and her husband Stergios opened the Crest Oyster House (later Lobster Pot) Restaurant in Wildwood Crest, NJ and along with her brother Lester "Laki" Katsanis, several motels in Wildwood, NJ. She also owned and operated the Greek Gourmet stand at the Fairgrounds Farmers Market with her husband until she retired in 2011.

She was a Choir member at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church where she also served as Philoptochos President and as the GOYA Youth Advisor. Cornilia also served as President of the Daughters of Penelope.

Stergios "Stelios or Steve" Dikos was born August 28, 1937 in Athens, Greece to Christos and Marina (Alexiou) Dikos. His family's roots are from Athens and Thessalia. Stergios graduated from High School and a Two-Year Accounting School in Athens. He loved to play soccer (football) and was known for his strong defensive skills. Along with the businesses with his wife Cornilia, Stergios worked several decades for the Arner Restaurants in the Reading area. Stergios passed away on February 5th, 2010.

Cornilia and Stergios have two children: Christos Dikos and Marina (Dikos) Good. Both are married and each have three children.

# DIKOS

**Christos**
**1967-**

**Valerie (Seibert)**
**1967-**

Christos Dikos was born in Reading, PA the son of Stergios and Cornilia Dikos. He received his degree from Widener University and is an Investment Advisor. He has served on the Parish Council 2003-04, Sunday School 2001-14, Bazaar Chairman 2003-06 and 2014, served as an Altar Boy and a member of GOYA. He was President of GOYA in 1984 and 1985 at St. Matthew's.

Chris is currently a member of AHEPA, and has coached youth sports in the Governor Mifflin area from 2000-2010.

Valerie was born in Reading, PA, a daughter of Allen and Susan Seibert. She attended high school in Reading and is a homemaker and seamstress. She is a member of Philoptochos. She is involved with the Shillington Pool Association, the Shillington Streaks Swimming as a volunteer from 2005-2014. Valerie is a parent volunteer for Governor Mifflin Lacrosse, Basketball, Field Hockey and Swimming.

Valerie and Chris were married in 1992 and they have three children: Alexandra, who attends Washington & Jefferson University. She was in the Sunday School and GOYA; Stergios, a student at The Hill School, also a Sunday School attendee, and member of GOYA, and an Altar Boy; and Antonia, who is in 7th Grade at Governor Mifflin and attends Sunday School.

# DIMITRIOU

**Emmanuel "Manny"**
**1933-2008**

**Ann (Reaser)**
**1940-**

Manny Dimitriou was born on the Island of Cos, Greece in 1933. He immigrated to the United States with his parents when he was still an infant and settled first in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In 1935, his family moved to Reading and lived with the Baxewanis family until they moved to 49 Pear Street.

Manny graduated from Franklin and Marshall College with a B.A in Economics and from Dickinson Law School with a Bachelor of Law Degree. He established a law practice in Reading that became one of the most renowned practices in the area. He served as the first Public Defender of Berks County and achieved distinction in the legal profession through hard work and attention to detail.

He was very active in the Church for many years. He was the first Chairman of the Building Committee that was responsible for purchasing the site where our beautiful Church now stands. He also ran the campaign that raised the money to build and furnish the Church. He also served as our Church Solicitor for many years.

Manny served in many professional, fraternal and civic organizations: Order of AHEPA, GAPA, Lion's Club, Board of Directors of Wernersville State Hospital, Governor's Trial Court Nominating Committee, Berks and American Bar Association, Berks County Criminal Law Committee, Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association and the National Association of Defense Lawyers. He lectured at Albright College, Alvernia University and Penn State University.

Manny married Debbie Choumbakos in December, 1959; their son Harry was born in 1960.

In 1968, Manny married the former Ann Reaser and they had four children: Catherine, wife of Thomas Kambouroglos; Eleni, wife of Kurt Geishauser; Erinn, and Ann. There are two step-children, Mary and John. As of the date of this publication, there are 22 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. Manny passed away in 2008.

# DIMITRIOU

**Harry**
**1960-**

**Stacey (Cooper)**
**1972-**

Harry Dimitriou was born on August 25, 1960 in Reading, Pennsylvania. He is the son of Despina (Choumbakos) Green and the late Emmanuel H. Dimitriou. His maternal grandmother, Bessie Patsourakos, and her family hailed from Gythion in the Peloponese area of Greece. His maternal grandfather, Harry Choumbakos, was born on the island of Lesbos and returned to Nea Loutsa, Atticus, in 1972. His father and paternal grandparents were from the island of Kos. Harry graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1982 with a B.A. in Economics.

Harry's wife, Stacey, is the daughter of Paul and Nancy Cooper and was born on October 25, 1972 in Ft. Erie, Ontario, Canada. She immigrated to the United States in 2011, when she and Harry were married.

Harry and Stacey currently live in Grantville, Pennsylvania, and are both race horse owners and trainers.

# DONAHUE

**Bernard**
**1969-**

**Patricia (Kraras)**
**1962-**

Bernard "Bernie" was born in Mount Holly, New Jersey and graduated from Rancocas Valley High School. He attended the Art Institute of Philadelphia where he studied Photography. Bernard became involved in the many family businesses where his main responsibilities were managing the travel agency and the computer department. Over time Bernie developed an interest in the area of screen printing and embroidery and today is the owner of CBL Advertising. Bernie helps in the Church kitchen, is a member of the Shade Tree Commission and is the Warden for the local AHEPA William Penn Chapter #61. Bernie was raised in the Catholic faith where his family is very devout and active. He was named for his uncle – Fr. Bernard F. Donahue, OSFS who supported his converting to the Orthodox faith in 2002.

Patricia "Tula" was born into a very faithful family of our Community. Her father, Gust C. Kraras, was born in the village of Terpsithea. Her mother, Stella (Dialectos) Kraras' family was from the island of Mytilene. Tula is a graduate of Reading Central Catholic High School and Albright College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Tula is also involved in the many family businesses where she is the company controller. Bernie and Tula were married in January 1993. Bernie and Tula's contribution to the Consecration earned them the title of Godparents of our Church.

Tula has been involved in Church activities since her childhood. Presently, Tula is in her seventh year as director of our local Sunday School. She had taught Sunday School for almost 15 years prior to becoming director. She is a past board member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She is also the originator of the Parents with Young Children Organization, the predecessor to OPA (Orthodox Preschoolers Association). Tula is actively involved in our annual Bazaar as one of the chairpersons of the Taverna and was a member of GOYA in her youth. Tula is also a member of the Friends Board of Directors of Reading Health Systems.

Bernie and Tula are the proud parents of two children, Bernard Nicholas "Bern" born on May 11, 1994 and Stavanna Constance born on March 10, 1997. Bern was an excellent attendee in Sunday School most of his years in Sunday school. He attended Greek school as a small child. Bern served as President of our local GOYA and helped coordinate our local tournament in 2012 which had almost 400 GOYAns from the Metropolis in attendance; he led our basketball team to second place in the tournament. Bern participated in the annual Christmas Pageant, attended the Metropolis Camp, participated in the St. John's Chrysostom Oratorical Festival several times and was an Altar Boy. Outside of Church, Bern was a founding member of Berks Youth In Action, which raised over $100,000 for disadvantaged and handicapped children in the Berks County Area. He was a member of the 2012 Wyomissing State Championship football team and was captain of the Wyomissing lacrosse team his senior year. Bern is currently a sophomore at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA where he is studying business.

Stavanna, currently a senior at Wyomissing Area High school, has also been involved in Sunday School as a regular attendee and attended Greek school as a small child. She participates in the annual Christmas pageant, was a Myrofori for several years and sings in the choir each week. Stavanna has participated in GOYA where she was treasurer and was also on the small but mighty girls' basketball team. She participated in the St. John's Chrysostom Oratorical Festival, helps at the Shelter and Food Bank, and has assisted at Vacation Bible School. Outside of Church, she volunteered at the United Way, Olivet's Boys and Girls Club and is a current member of the Berks Youth In Action.

# DOUKAS

**George**
**1968-**

**Heather (Schmoyer)**
**1970-**

George was born in Chicago, Illinois on May 19, 1968. His father, Louis, is from Caperelli, now called Namthrea, Arkadia, Greece. His mother was born in Athens, Greece and her parents were from Zevgolatio, Messinia. George was raised in Chicago, Illinois and moved to the Reading area in 2005, when he began working for US Airways. He earned an Associate Degree. He married Heather Schmoyer.

Heather was born in Reading, Pennsylvania to Carol (DeLuma) and Thomas Schmoyer, Jr. on November 1, 1970. Her maternal grandparents are Italian from Sicily and her paternal grandparents are German. Heather's grandfather is one of the founders of Schmoyer's Famous Rye Bread, which was located in Reading. Heather graduated from Muhlenberg High School and attended beauty school. She owns a hair salon called The Hair Connection and has been a hair dresser for 27 years. She teaches a spin class at a gym for eight years.

George and Heather are involved in the community, having represented Yocum Institute at Dancing with the Reading Stars. Heather volunteers at her daughter's school.

They are the proud parents of two children: Oiabella Sophia, a student at Sacred Heart School and Ilias, who attends Yocum Institute. Both children are active with their parents' community involvement and our Church.

# DOWIAK

**Eric**
**1968-**

**Elizabeth (Wagner)**
**1970-**

Elizabeth Dowiak, the daughter of Despina (Choumbakos) Green and Conrad D. Wagner, was born on March 15, 1970 in Reading, Pennsylvania. Her maternal grandmother, Bessie Patsourakos, and her family hailed from Gythion in the Peloponese area of Greece. Her maternal grandfather, Harry Choumbakos, was born on the island of Lesbos and returned to Nea Loutsa, Atticus, in 1972.

Elizabeth graduated from Penn State University in 1992 with a B.S. in Education. In 1999, she received a Master's degree in Technology/Education from Chestnut Hill College. Elizabeth teaches Elementary Spanish in the Perkiomen Valley School District. She volunteers each month with the Church's Food Pantry.

Eric was born on February 25, 1968 in Lansdale, Pennsylvania, and is the son of George and Thelma (Hager) Dowiak. He graduated from Penn State University in 1990 with a B.S. in International Politics. In 2002, Eric earned a Master's degree in Information Technology, and in 2006 he received an MBA, both from Penn State University. He is employed as an IT Manager for Lockheed Martin Corporation.

Elizabeth and Eric were married on August 7, 1993. They live in Collegeville and have two children: Alexis Victoria, born August 28, 1995; and Ashley Nicole Dowiak, born September 4, 1997.

# EDWARDS

**Philip**
**1959-**

**Michelle (Medaglia)**
**1964-**

Philip J. Edwards was born in Nazareth, PA on April 28, 1959, to John and Geraldine Edwards. He is a 1974 graduate of Nazareth High School, a 1979 graduate of Millersville University, where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology, and a 1984 graduate of the University of the Pittsburgh School of Law, where he earned his Juris Doctor. He also earned a Master of Laws Degree in Taxation from Temple University School of Law in 1989.

Philip is an attorney/principal with the Reading law firm of Linton, Distasio, Edwards & Miller, P.C.

Michelle (Medaglia) Edwards was born on August 19, 1964, in Charlotte, N.C., to Lawrence and Dawn (Pezdirc) Medaglia, Sr. She graduated from Wyomissing High School in 1982, and Bloomsburg University in 1986, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She is currently employed as a probation officer for the County of Berks.

Michelle, who everyone knows as Shelly, is a member of the Philoptochos and a Sunday School aide. She also volunteers in the Taverna and Harry's Coffee Shop at the Greek Food Bazaar.

The couple reside in Wyomissing with their two children, Jack, 16, a student at Wyomissing High School, and Jessica, 13, a student at Wyomissing Junior High School. Both attended Vacation Bible School and Sunday School at Sts. Constantine & Helen Church.

# EFSTRATION
## "IOANNIDIS"

**Theoharis**
**1892-1955**

**Andromache (Fotiadou)**
**1904-1990**

**John Efstration**
**1902-1954**

Theoharis Efstration and his wife Andromache (Fotiadou) Efstration were born in Asia Minor and immigrated to the United States. Theoharis was born in 1892 and Andromache was born in 1904.

Theoharis' brother, John Efstration, born in 1902, joined them later and lived with the Efstrations for the remainder of his life. Andromache was a member of Philoptochos, and the Efstrations loved the church and were devoted members of the parish until they entered eternity, Theoharis in 1955, and Andromache in 1990.

Theoharis and Andromache had three children. Their son Constantine served as an Altar boy until he graduated from Reading High. He then went on to become a popular and respected actor, working for decades under the name of Michael Constantine. Their daughter Fotini married Chris Dobbs, and currently lives in California. Their daughter, Paraskivi "Patricia," married Dr. Michael Gordon and still lives in Reading.

# ELLIKER

**Deacon James**
**1952-**

**Argyro (Stroumbakis)**
**1956-**

Deacon James M. Elliker was born in Washington D.C. on October 18, 1952 to John and Janet (Carpenter) Elliker. He graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a B.A. in Mathematics and from Gonzaga University with an M.A. in Organizational Leadership. He has spent his career at Air Products and Lutron, working as a Human Resource Consultant.

Argyro Elliker was born in Chios, Greece on August 8, 1956, to Dr. Constantine and Maria (Pappas) Stroumbakis, immigrating to the United States in 1957. She graduated from Slippery Rock University with a B.S. Ed., from Johns Hopkins University with an M.S. Ed., and from Widener University with an Ed.D. Argyro is employed as a reading specialist in the Muhlenberg School District.

James and Argyro met in Annapolis, Maryland, while James was teaching at the U.S. Naval Academy and Argyro was teaching at Annapolis Junior High School. They were married on April 19, 1980 at St. John's Greek Orthodox Church in Boardman, Ohio. James was chrismated in the Greek Orthodox Church in 1990 and was subsequently ordained to the deaconate in 2007.

Residing in Fleetwood, Deacon James and Argyro are very active parishioners. They have both served our youth as GOYA advisors and Sunday School teachers. Deacon James served as Superintendent of Sunday School and as Vice President of the Parish Council. He also served as Vice President and President of the Reading Berks Conference of Churches. Argyro has served in Vacation Bible School and the Food Pantry.

Deacon Jim and Argyro are the proud parents of five children: Stephen, age 33, the husband of Amy; Maria, age 31, the wife of Thomas Crassas; Alexander, age 28, a graduate of Duquesne University School of Law; Christine, age 25, a graduate of Temple University; and Elyse, age 20, a senior at the University of Pittsburgh. They are also blessed with four wonderful grandchildren: Stephen, age 8; Luke, age 6; Emily, age 3; and James, age 1.

# ELLIKER

**Stephen**
**1981-**

**Amy (Miller)**
**1982-**

Stephen "Stephanos" Elliker was born in Annapolis, Maryland on February 23, 1981, the son of Deacon James and Argyro (Stroumbakis) Elliker. After graduating from Fleetwood High School in 1999, Stephen received a B.A. in Economics and Philosophy from Millersville University and an M.B.A. from Drexel University in Philadelphia. Stephen works as a Senior Research Analyst at Chartwell Investment Partner.

Amy was born to Robert and Sheri Miller in Reading, Pennsylvania on August 27, 1982. A 2000 graduate of Fleetwood High School, Amy attended Millersville University, earning a B.A. in Graphic Design. Amy applies her artistic expertise in a myriad of ways, including "Amy's Sweet Tooth", where she creates the most delectable and exquisite cookies.

Stephen and Amy serve our parish through their involvement with Sunday School and the Food Pantry. Amy has helped to lead Vacation Bible School for a number of years and has also led and organized "Story Time" for our church's preschoolers. Stephen has served as a board member for both the Reading Berks Council of Churches and the Hope Rescue Mission. An avid runner, Amy has helped support a plethora of worthy organizations, including IOCC, through her running.

Stephen and Amy were married in our church on Mary 25, 2003, and have three beautiful children: Stephen, age 8; Luke, age 6; and Emily, age 3. The Elliker Family resides in Elverson, Pennsylvania, remaining steadfast Orioles fans.

# ENGLISH

**Kalliope**
**1931-**

Kalliope "Kallie" English was born in Reading on June 19, 1931, one of five daughters of John and Triantafillio (Theodossiou) Englezopoulos. Her father was born in Asia Minor and Americanized the family name to English after coming to the U.S. in 1914.

John married Triantafillio (Rose) in 1916 and they had five daughters: Marie (Havas), Pandora (Theofilis), Eugenia (English), Irene (Marmarou), and Kalliope (English).

Kallie taught in our Sunday School for 35 years, the longest serving Sunday School teacher in our church's 100-year history.

She is a member of Philoptochos and was a longtime member of the Church Choir the Daughters of Penelope chapter in Reading.

She also volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar and has helped coordinate the church's volunteer efforts at the homeless shelter in Berks County for many years.

# ERMENTROUT

**Gerald**
**1948-**

**Elaine (Exas)**
**1948-**

Gerald was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on June 11, 1948. He graduated from Wilson High school in 1966. Gerald graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1970. He earned a MBA from Lehigh University. Gerald was in the United States Navy for five years in Newport, Rhode Island and Norfolk, Virginia. He worked for Air Products and Chemicals in Allentown for 32 years retiring as Vice President of Electronics. Gerald married Elaine (Exas) in June, 1970.

Elaine was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on September 29, 1948. She is the daughter of John and Caroline (Daburlos) Exas. Elaine graduated from Wilson High school in 1966. She earned a Bachelor Degree in Secondary Education (French) from West Chester University in 1970. Elaine retired as a school teacher. Her grandfather Peter, immigrated to the United States from Gytheon, Laconia, Greece.

Elaine grew up as a member of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. She attended Sunday school, Greek school and was a member of GOYA and the choir. Elaine joined St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox church after returning to Pennsylvania from Virginia. She was a member of the choir and co-chair of the Greek Imports at the annual bazaar. Elaine was also a member of the Bethlehem chapter of the Daughters of Penelope. She also sang with the Lehigh Valley Pan Orthodox Choir.

Gerald and Elaine are the parents of three children: Ryan, Greg and Julie. Ryan graduated from Emmaus High school in 1993. He attended Sunday school and Greek school, served as an altar boy and was a member of GOYA at St. Nicholas. Ryan graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He earned a MBA from Penn State University. Ryan was married in 1999 to Lani Curran and they are the parents of twin daughters Margaret and Caroline. Gregg graduated from Emmaus High school in 1988. He attended Sunday school, served as an altar boy and was a member of GOYA at St. Nicholas. Gregg graduated from Susquehanna University. He was married in 2012 to Jennifer Paretchan. Julie graduated from Emmaus High school in 2000. She attended Sunday school and was a member of GOYA at St. Nicholas. Julie graduated from the University of Delaware and is a special education teacher in the Haverford School District.

# EXAS
## "EXARHAKOS"

**Peter John**
**1888-1966**

**Elene (Patsourakos)**
**1892-1994**

Peter John Exas was born in 1888 in Gytheon Laconia Greece. After serving with the Greek Army in Nafplion for two years, immigrated to the United States on July 4, 1912 to join his Uncle John Jaffurs.

Peter held many jobs in his early years in America and finally became the owner of the 5th & Court Restaurant which he operated for many years.

One of the very active forefathers of our Greek Community, Peter helped in the founding of Saints Constantine & Helen and held many Council positions, while he also helped many Greek Immigrants get settled and established in this area.

Mr. Exas married Elene (Patsourakos) daughter of a priest on August 15, 1915. Elene also served her Church well as a founding member and Officer of the Ladies Philoptochos society. Elene was one of our parishioners who attended the very first church services 100 years ago.

They had four children: George (1915-1992), John (1916-2006), Stella (1919-2014) and Mary "Marouli" (1921-1999), all very dedicated and active parishioners and great assets to our beloved church throughout the years, serving in every phase of our Church's growth from the inception.

There are four grandchildren: Elaine wife of Jerry Ermentrout, Dean, Peter and Steven Exas and six great-grandchildren: Ryan, Gregory and Julie Ermentrout, and Callie, Adam and Christopher Exas.

The Exas Family is one of the older families in our Community and one of the most active.

May their memories be eternal.

# EXAS
## "EXARHAKOS"

**George**
**1918-1992**

**Anna (Berezowski)**
**1923-2015**

George was born in Reading in 1918 into one of the oldest Greek families that settled in Reading. His parents were Peter John and Elene (Patsourakos) Exas "Exarhakos". At the age of two he moved back to Greece with his mother and family. While growing up in Gytheon, he attended school and also served as an Altar boy in the local church.

Returning to the United Sates at the age of twelve he continued his education in the Greek and American schools, and became a member of our church's first organized choir.

In his youth he held various jobs and was employed by the Berkshire Knitting Mills for a period of six years prior to enlisting in the United States Marine Corp in 1942. He was wounded in Guadalcanal later in 1942, returned home in 1943 and was then employed by the Textile Machine Works. He married Anna V. (Berezowski) later that same year.

Anna, also born and educated in Reading was employed as a seamstress prior to starting a family, then became a full time house wife and mother. She later was employed by the United States Postal Service and held various other positions prior to her retirement.

From 1959 through 1963 George was employed by the Crystal restaurant. In 1963 he and his brother John bought and operated the Riverside Diner located within the Carpenter Technology Corporation property until his retirement in 1979.

George served on the Church Council and as a member of the Order of AHEPA and both George and Anna volunteered and helped at many Church Bazaars. George was a member of the American Legion, Greg Post #12.

George and Anna are the proud parents of two sons: Peter and Steven, both residing in Reading.

May their memories be eternal.

# EXAS
## "EXARHAKOS"

**John**
**1916-2006**

**Caroline (Daburlos)**
**1924-**

John Exas was born in Reading in 1916 to Peter John and Elene (Patsourakos) Exas "Exarhakos". He moved to Gytheon, Greece with his family at an early age where he began his education. Upon returning to the United States in 1930, he continued his education in Reading.

John was a World War II veteran, serving at Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese bombing attack. After serving in World War II, he became interested in the restaurant business. He and his brother George became the owners of the River Road Diner until his retirement in the 1980s.

Caroline (Daburlos) was born in Reading, PA July 9, 1924. Caroline was raised and educated in Reading, graduating from Reading High School. Caroline studied cosmetology and became a hair dresser. Caroline was a long time member of the Philoptochos and the Church Choir and a volunteer for the Annual Greek Food Bazaar for many years.

John and Caroline were married after the war and had two children: Elaine, wife of Gerald Ermentrout and Dean, husband of Bernice (Parisi). There are six grandchildren: Ryan, Gregory and Julie Ermentrout, and Callie, Adam and Christopher Exas.

The Exas Family have always been extremely dedicated and very active Parish members.

John died in 2006; may his memory be eternal.

# EXAS
**"EXARHAKOS"**

**Dean**
**1957-**

**Bernice (Parisi)**
**1960-**

Dean was born in Reading in 1957 to John and Caroline (Daburlos) Exas, one of the older families in the Community and one of the most active.

Dean was raised and educated in Reading until his graduation from Wilson High School in 1975. Dean then attended Bloomsburg University and graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and is working at 3M Corporation for 30 years, currently as a Sales Director.

Dean and Bernice (Parisi) married in October, 2005.

True to the Exas Family tradition, Dean has served several years as an Altar boy, as well as a member of various groups in our Church, including serving on the Parish Council and serving many years as a Kitchen Crew member for the annual Greek Food Bazaar.

Dean has three lovely children: Callie, wife of Tim Mosback; Adam, husband of Maggie (Makuch) and Christopher Exas.

# EXAS
## "EXARHAKOS"

**Stella**
**1919-2014**

Stella was born in Reading August 15, 1919 to Peter John and Elene (Patsourakos) Exas "Exarhakos".

Stella and the Exas Family, moved to Gytheon, Greece where they lived for many years before moving back to the United States in 1930.

Stella, along with her parents and siblings, John, George and Marouli, were all early founders of our Greek community, assisting many Greeks getting settled in the Reading area.

Stella was employed by the Crystal Restaurant for many years.

Stella was a long time member of the Philoptochos and the Church Choir and an active Volunteer for the Annual Greek Food Bazaar for many years and volunteered in any other area the Church needed.

The Exas Family were extremely dedicated, very active Parish members and great assets to our beloved Church throughout the years serving in any capacity necessary.

May her memory be eternal.

# FECERA

**Arthur "Artie"**
**1940-**

**Connie (Arnidis)**
**1947-**

Arthur A. Fecera was born on November 28, 1940 in Reading, PA to Arthur and Inez Fecera. He graduated from Central Catholic High School. He lived in Ridley Park, Delaware County before moving to Birdsboro, and later to Exeter Township. Currently, Artie and his wife, Connie, live in Wyomissing near their grandchildren.

Connie (Arnidis) was born in 1947 in Reading, PA to James and Pauline Arnidis. Her grandfather, Constantine Arnidis came from Istanbul and her grandmother came from the Island of Mytilene, Greece. Connie graduated from Exeter High School and the American Institute of Banking at Albright College. She is currently employed as secretary/treasurer of Fecera's Furniture Company.

Artie and Connie have been married for 32 years. The couple has a daughter, Catherine, wife of Michael S. Zervanos, and a son, Chris, husband of Annette (Weaver). Artie and Connie have two grandchildren: Ella Zervanos and Ava Zervanos.

Artie is CEO of Fecera's Furniture, a local business that has been in the family since 1947. He is a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61, Order of AHEPA, and Leadership 100. Outside of church, he has served as President of the Investment Club, Secretary/ Treasurer and President of the Style Trend Buying and Advertising Group; Advisory Board for the former Meridian Bank; Advisory Board for First Priority Bank; and a member of the Aero Club for pilots. His hobbies include playing golf and flying his own airplane.

Artie was first elected to the Parish Council in 2001. He served as Vice President in 2004, and has been serving as President since 2005. He holds the distinction of being the longest-serving Parish Council President, having served for 11 consecutive terms. Artie has also served on the Stewardship Committee, the Capital Campaign Committee, and the Centennial Committee. Artie prides himself in never missing a Parish Council meeting since 2001. During Artie's tenure as Parish Council President, our Church has seen much improvement to the physical appearance of the building, including a new roof, new carpeting and the beautiful marble tile work. The Church also embarked on a highly successful Capital Campaign that raised more than $500,000 for capital improvements. The Church also celebrated its Centennial Anniversary during Artie's time as President.

Connie has been very active within the Church for many years. She has been a member of Philoptochos, serving on the Board of Directors. Currently, she is a Parish Council member, serving as secretary. She is also the lead teacher for the Pre-Kindergarten in the Sunday School Department.

# FECERA

**Chris J.**
**1969-**

**Annette F. (Weaver)**
**1980-**

Chris James Fecera was born in Reading on August 7th to Artie and Connie Fecera. His great-grandparents are from Mytilene and Istanbul. He graduated from Exeter High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Bloomsburg University. He is currently the president of Fecera's Furniture.

Chris served in the Altar in his younger days. He is a member of Millennium Investment Securities and served as Secretary and President of Style Trend Furniture Group.

Annette Faye (Weaver) Fecera was born in Lancaster, PA on January 4th to Phil and Faye Weaver. She graduated from Littlestown Senior High School in Littlestown, PA and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology from West Chester University, and a Master's Degree in School Health. She is currently working on her doctorate at Immaculata University. Annette is a high school teacher in the Conestoga Valley School District in Lancaster County.

The couple was married on July 28, 2012 in Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They reside in Sinking Spring.

# FERNEZ

**Jarett**
**1984-**

**Jennifer (Pappalas)**
**1983-**

Jarett Fernez was born in January 1984 in Connecticut. His mother is Cynthia Hodsdon. Jarett earned a Bachelor's Degree in Engineering from the University of Vermont. He is currently employed as an electrical engineer by Worley Parsons in Reading, PA.

Jennifer Pappalas was born on October 5, 1983 in Perth Amboy, N.J., to the Rev. Thomas Pappalas and Presbytera Anne Pappalas. Jennifer earned a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Vermont and attained her teaching license through Kutztown University. She is a high school math teacher with Connections Academy, a cybercharter school.

Jarett and Jennifer were married on May 24, 2008. He was chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 2009.

Jarett is a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61, Order of AHEPA, and volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar. He also volunteers for Meals on Wheels.

Jennifer was active in JOY, GOYA and Junior Choir in church and also served as a Sunday School teacher for many years. She also volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar.

The couple, reside in Wyomissing with their daughter, Eleni, born in 2013.

# FIRILAS

**Michael**
**1931-**

**Kula (Malavazis)**
**1937-**

Michael "Mike" Firilas was born in Limnia, Famagusta, Cyprus, on Nov. 1, 1931, one of 11 children of Antonis and Theodora Firilas. He immigrated to the United States in 1950 and served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. After his discharge, Mike came to Reading and started a painting and sandblasting business.

Mike went to Greece in 1958, where he married Kyriakoula "Kula" Malavazis, and brought her back to Reading with him. Kula was born September 16, 1937, in Piraeus, Greece, where she was educated and worked as a seamstress. After settling in Reading, Kula became active in the church and many of the items in the church, such as Altar Covers, Altar Boy Robes, and even a set of the priest's Vestments, were Kula's handiwork. Kula was a longtime member of the Choir, the Philoptochos and the Daughters of Penelope in Reading.

Mike served tirelessly as a member of the Parish Council for more than a dozen years, including two terms as president in 1971 and 1972. His tremendous drive helped guide the church through difficult financial times in the early 1970s when the community was facing high mortgage payments for the new building. Mike was instrumental in meeting all financial obligations and putting the community on a sound financial footing. He also served as chairman of the Greek Food Bazaar several times. Mike's dedication to the church resulted in the honor of being named an Archon Depoutatos by His Eminence Archbishop Lakovos.

The same energy and drive was used to reorganize the Reading AHEPA Chapter in the 1970s and 1980s. Mike served in all chapter offices, including president. He served on the District Lodge and was elected District Governor of Pennsylvania in 1980. In 1986, Mike was elected a Supreme Governor at the National AHEPA Convention in Miami, FL. Mike served on the AHEPA Cyprus Committee and was a leading advocate for an end to the Turkish occupation of Cyprus. He was also honored in 1991 as AHEPAN of the Year in Pennsylvania. Mike was also a member of several Trade Associations, the G.A.P.A., Lions International and is a 32nd Degree Mason.

Mike and Kula eventually moved to Florida but remain members of the Reading church.

Mike and Kula have two children, Mary (Firilas) Patton, wife of Dr. Spiro Patton, now living in Florida, and Dr. Anthony Firilas, a surgeon in Charleston, S.C., married to Kimberley Firilas. They are the grandparents of Keiriaki and Michael.

# FISHER
## "PSARADELLIS"

**Anthony**
**1893-1970**

**Despina (Geovanellis)**
**1900-1962**

Anthony Psaradellis was born on January 7, 1893 in Mytilene, Greece.

Despina Geovanellis was born on August 7, 1900 in Mytilene, Greece.

They immigrated to the United States circa 1912. The family changed its surname of Psaradellis to the Americanized version of Fisher.

Despina was a homemaker. She was a member of the Philoptochos Society at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church during the 1940s and 1950s. Despina passed away on May 9, 1962.

The couple had two sons, Louis Fisher and Yuff Fisher, both graduates of Reading High School.

Louis and his wife, Mary, had two sons: Greg and Nick. Greg married Debra Kazmierczak and have one son, Louis, and two grandchildren, John and Isabella. Nick also has two children, Nick and Nicole, and one grandson, Jacob. Louis passed away in 1975.

Yuff was married to Phlame L. (Stamm), who passed away on May 8, 2001. He operated The Family Luncheonette from 1947 to 1952 and served briefly in the Army during the Korean War. He was a self-employed barber in Kenhorst for 35 years. Yuff was also a musician; he played drums with big bands and combos, last playing with The Townsmen East for over 20 years. Yuff passed away on April 1, 2015.

# FISHER

**Greg**
**1950-**

**Debra (Kazmierczak)**
**1958-**

Greg Fisher was born in Reading, PA on March 26, 1950 to Mary and Louis Fisher, whose Greek roots are from Kalloni, Lesvos.

Debra was also born in Reading on January 15, 1958 and is the daughter of Dawn and Ted Kazmierczak.

Greg and Debra were married on April 24, 2010.

Greg received his B.S. in Business and Computer Science and is business owner of "The Grease Stop," a commercial hood cleaning company servicing Sts. Constantine and Helen as well as many other local and regional restaurants and establishments. Debra is Chief Financial Officer of this family business.

The Fisher Family also includes son, Louis Fisher, age 33, his wife Sandra, and their children, John (6) and Isabella (4). They reside in Annapolis, Maryland. Greg followed in his father's footsteps by playing bass in the well-loved local Greek Band, "The Townsmen East," back in the late 1970s along with uncle, Yuff Fisher. This group delighted our community by playing at many a church picnic and other events.

# FOURNARIS

**Evimeros**
**1885-1937**

**Marigo (Pazakis)**
**1890-1985**

Evimeros N. Fournaris was born on the island of Kos, Greece on March 16, 1885, the son of Nikos and Maria (Mytiliniou) Fournaris. He was a shoemaker by trade.

Marigo Fournaris was born on Kos on December 25, 1890, the daughter of Rossetto and Dionysia (Petridis) Pazakis.

Evimeros and Marigo were married in May, 1910 on Kos. Their two children, Dionysia and Nikos, were born in Kos. They immigrated to the U.S. in 1914, settling first in Reading where their children, Vasiliki and Ross were born. They moved to Hyannis, MA where Evimeros opened his shoemakers shop. There they had two more children, Christine and Debra. On February 20, 1937, Evimeros died of a heart condition complicated by severe pneumonia.

In 1941, Marigo and her three youngest children moved back to Reading, staying with her two older daughters who had married and moved to Reading. Marigo died in Reading on November 16, 1985.

# FOURNARIS

**Ross**
**1925-**

**Helen (Mandolos)**
**1930-2010**

Ross E. Fournaris was born in Reading on August 25, 1925, the second son of Evimeros and Marigo (Pazakis) Fournaris. A year later the family moved to Hyannis, MA where Ross spent most of his formative years. The family then returned to Reading in 1941. A graduate of Reading High, he continued at the McCann Business School taking accounting and finance. He worked for thirty-three years at Dana Corporation as an accounting supervisor often traveling abroad. He was a member of the church choir and he did accounting of the church books.

Helen V. Fournaris was born in Philadelphia, PA on February 2, 1930, the oldest daughter of Gus and Victoria (Reesta) Mandolos. After graduating from Reading High, she worked as a secretary in the family business (Bright Sign). She was an organist for the church choir from the late 1940s to the mid-1970s. She wrote poetry, receiving awards for poetry from the Olivet Boys and Girls Club.

Ross and Helen were married on September 10, 1950. They lived in the Glenside section of Reading where they had two children: Evan (b. 1955) and Margo (b. 1961). They are blessed with four grandchildren: Elena,Daniel, Andrew, and Alissa and three great-grandchildren: Rowen, Elias, and Aria.

Helen passed away on August 28, 2010. Their son Evan passed away on December 25, 2011 of thyroid cancer.

# FOURNARIS

**Nicholas**
**1903-1967**

**Thalia (Yianoulis)**
**1903-1992**

Nicholas E. Fournaris was born on the Greek island of Kos on February 15, 1903 to Emmanuel and Eriene (Stringas) Fournaris. He was one of six children; he completed his schooling in Kos and immigrated to the United States in 1920. He settled in Reading, PA where his aunts Angeliki Baxewanis and Stamatia Franzis lived with their famlies.

Nicholas first worked at the Crystal Restaurant in Reading, and in later years was employed at the Textile Machine Works, Wyomissing Industries, until his death on January 30, 1967. He was an early supporter and member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and in later years, was a member of the Parish Council.

Thalia (Yianoulis) was born on the island of Kos on June 26, 1903 to Emmanuel and Hariklia (Coyopoulos) Yianoulis; she was one of four children.

Nicholas returned to Greece in 1929 to marry Thalia. They had two daughters: Hariklia, wife of Christ Zervanos, and Irene, wife of Steve Davlantes (deceased).

Thalia was a faithful member of the church and longtime supporter of Philoptochos. She died on May 11, 1992.

May their memories be eternal.

# FRANGAKIS

**John**
**1933-**

**Despina (Vourlos)**
**1934-**

John was born in Chios, Greece September 29, 1933. John immigrated to the United States from Chios in 1958. John met his wife Despina (Vourlos) here in Reading and they were married June 15, 1961. John and Despina have two children: Anna and Isidoros. John and Despina also have two grandchildren: Evangelia and Stellios Koutroulelis.

Anna was raised and educated in Reading graduating from Mt. Penn High School and then Kutztown University and continues today successfully working in the family restaurant business.

Isidoros was raised and educated in Reading graduating from Mt. Penn High School. He entered the family's restaurant business where he successfully continues today.

John was educated as a Chef, and he opened the Deluxe Restaurant in 1963 on North 8th Street. In 1982 the original Deluxe Restaurant became too small for the growing business so John and his family moved to their newly built family restaurant at its current location at 2295 Lancaster Pike, Shillington, PA.

The entire Frangakis Family has worked closely in their restaurant business for over 50 years and support our beloved Church in any way necessary.

John was a long time member of the AHEPA Reading William Penn Chapter 61 and his wife Despina has been a long time Philoptochos member.

# FUTRICK

**Michael A.**
**1950-**

**Barbara (Koumaras)**
**1951-**

Barbara was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951, the daughter of Stratton Koumaras and Helen (Mavrides) Koumaras and the younger sister of George Koumaras. Barbara graduated from Reading High School and later received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Alvernia College. She worked for the Reading School District as a substitute teacher and currently provides special tutoring services.

Michael was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1950. A 1968 graduate of Reading High School, he currently works for Bernville Fuel as a heating and air conditioning specialist. He and Barbara were married in 1968.

Barbara has been an active member of our parish for many years. She attended both Sunday School and Greek School and was a member of GOYA. She has also been an active member of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society for many years, having served as Recording Secretary in the 1990s. Barbara also currently serves as a member of the "first" choir.

Barbara and Michael are the proud parents of three children. Their oldest, Michael, graduated from Albright College and lives with his wife and children in the Reading area. Alan, who graduated from Lebanon Valley College, also lives with his wife and children in the Reading area. Their youngest, Alaina, graduated from Kutztown University and lives out of state with her husband and children.

Barbara and Michael are blessed with eleven grandchildren.

# FUTRICK

**Michael Anthony**
**1969-**

**Staci Marie (Lambros)**
**1973-**

Michael was born in 1969 in Reading, to Michael and Barbara (Koumaras) Futrick, Sr., with roots in Reading, Kos, and Mytilini. He was an altar boy, attended Sunday School, and was a noteworthy quarterback in high school and college. After Reading HS, he earned a BA in Political Science (Albright). Michael works as an Adult Probation Officer for Berks County.

Wife, Staci Marie, born 1973 in Reading, is the daughter of Evan and Mim (Mogel) Lambros, with roots in Reading and Kos. After Wilson HS, she earned a BS in Special Education and Elementary Education (Kutztown Univ.), received a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction (Penn State), and has certifications in Special Education Supervision and Applied Behavior Analysis. She is a Behavior Analyst for the Upper Merion School District and Lead Verbal Behavior Consultant.

Staci was a Goyan and 1991 Goya president, played Goya basketball, and attended Sunday School. She is Asst. Director/Producer of the Miss Berks Co. Scholarship Pageant, a Van Reed Youth Commissioner, and a dance instructor. The couple has 2 beautiful children – Carly Miranda,10, and Courtney Michele, 9.

Despite hectic schedules, they are all active in our parish and are regular attendees. They hope to follow in the footsteps of their parents and grandparents who have a long, faithful history with our Church!

# GANAS

**Louis**
**1895-1945**

**Vasiliki**
**1906-1989**

Louis Ganas was born in Vlahokerasia and arrived in the United States with his father at the age of 10. After several years in Pittsburgh, PA, he moved to Reading, PA.

With his partner, Michael Zervanos, they opened and owned the Brighter Restaurant for many years. They owned the restaurant together until Louis passed away. The restaurant was located at Second and Penn Streets where the IRS building is located today.

Vasiliki was born in Mani, Greece and arrived in Reading at the age of 18. She lived with her mother and sister, Thalia Thomas, until her marriage to Louis. They had three sons: George, Steve and Dr. Christ, and six grandchildren.

# GANAS

**Dr. Christ L.**
**1933-**

**Sherry (Yingling)**
**1939-**

Christ was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on June 17, 1933 to Louis and Vasiliki (Demarkou) Ganas.

His father immigrated from Vlachokerasia, Greece and his mother from Mani, Greece. He graduated from Reading High School and received his Doctorate of Dental Medicine from the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. He was a dentist in the Reading area for many years.

Sherry (Yingling) was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania on August 3, 1939 to Thomas and Grace (Mills) Yingling. She graduated from Saltillo High School and received her registered nurse degree from West Penn School of Nursing.

Christ and Sherry were married on November 22, 1968. They are the proud parents of three children: Louis, who graduated from the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Christie, who graduated from Jefferson Medical School; and Georgann, who graduated from Bloomsburg University.

Christ was a member of the parish council from 1964 to 1968. He is a member of William Penn Chapter of AHEPA and served as the President in 1964. Sherry is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos.

Christ was very active in the community. He was elected and served as a member of the Exeter School Board for ten years. He served on the Zoning Hearing Board. He was elected and served as Chairman of the Board of Exeter Supervisors. He was President of both the Berks County Dental Society and 4th District Dental Society. He was the President of Berks Medical – Dental Bureau of which he was a member for 34 years and on the board. He was honored by being elected into the Southern Jr. High Hall of Fame.

# GANAS/SHER

**James Sher**
**1970-**

**Dr. Christie Ganas**
**1968-**

James Sher is a native of Berks County and graduated from Oley Valley High School. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Albright College and his Juris Doctorate from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He is a member of both the Berks County Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He presently serves on the board of directors for Opportunity House in Reading, PA and is a member of the Exeter Township Lions Club.

Christie was born in Reading in 1968 to Dr. Christ and Sherry Ganas. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Thomas Jefferson University Medical School. Christie has been given several medical awards in Berks County. She received the Patient Choice Award from 2010-2013, the Compassionate Doctor Award – 5-year Honoree in 2014, and voted Top Ten Doctor – City 2014. Christie is on the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

# GASPARIS

**Stathi**
**1927-**

**Virginia (Koumaras)**
**1923-1976**

Stathi was born on September 19, 1927 in Andros, Greece. He was the son of Miltiades and Despoina (Livanos) Gasparis. His brothers are Nicholas, Emmanuel, and John and his sisters are Polixeni and Maria. He came to the United States in 1949 after working in the shipping merchant fleets of Greece. He began his life in America in Florida and then moved to New Jersey to work with a cousin in the restaurant business. Stathi brought all of his siblings, except Maria, to the United States. Maria resides in Athens, Greece; John returned to Greece lives in Athens. His other brothers and sister all reside in New York. A mutual friend/neighbor brought him to Reading where he met Virginia.

Virginia was born in Reading, PA on June 24, 1923 to George and Maria (Odatzis) Koumaras. George was from Aghia Paraskevi, Lesvos; Maria was originally from Giavorkio, Asia Minor (near Smyrna, Turkey). She had 6 sisters and 2 brothers. Her brother Antoni, had arrived in Reading earlier and arranged for her to meet George Koumaras, who had come to the United States in 1907 and worked in the Berkshire Knitting Mills. They were married for over 50 years. Later, George brought his brother (Stavro), his mother (Amersouda), and his sister (Efstratia) to Reading. Virginia graduated from Reading High School at the age of 17 and worked until she married in 1949 to Efstathios Gasparis. Her last employment was with Boscov's Department Store. Virginia had three brothers: Michael, Stratton, and Hippocrates. She also had a sister, Eleni, who died at the age of two.

Stathi and Virginia were married for 29 years until her death in 1976. They reared three children: Despina, Milton and Maria.

Dr. Milton Gasparis, MD, PhD is an internist and lives in Valparaiso, IN with his wife, Irene, a lawyer. They have three children: Dr. Pauley Jacob, a radiologist in Indianapolis; Steven who earned a BS in Hotel Management; and Jenny who earned a BS in Computer Science and currently lives in San Francisco, CA.

Despina received a BS and MS in Art Education from Kutztown University and also attended Alvernia College for Certification in Elementary Education. She is married to Asimakis Platanos. They have four children: Jenna earned an Associate Degree as a Medical Assistant and currently lives in South Korea with her husband, Michael Schmalzer, and son, Kristopher (Stathi's only great-grandchild); Christopher has had training in real estate and computer programs and is currently living in Boston, MA; Felicia is a Registered Nurse and lives in Reading with her husband, Andrew Walk. Stathi is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Psychology and lives in Lynchburg, VA with his wife, Lauren (Umstead).

Maria earned a BS in Nursing and MS in Nursing Administration; she lives in Blauvelt, NY with her husband, Dr. George Chondris, a veterinarian. They have three children: Fani, who has a BS in Public Health; Jenna, who is a junior studying Child and Family Life Studies at Syracuse University; and Chris, who will be entering the Criminal Justice program at Gwynned Mercy College in the Fall, 2015.

# GEORGEADIS

**James S.**
**1926-**

**Christine (Fournaris)**
**1927-**

James S. Georgeadis was born in Reading on February 25, 1926, the son of Socrates and Androniki (Lambros) Georgeadis. He is a graduate of Reading High School. He went into sales spending most of his career as a heating oil representative (Reading Merchants Oil) and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He served as an Altar boy, sang in the Church choir, served on the Church Parish Council, and on the building fund committee. He is a member of the kitchen crew and works for the annual bazaar.

Christine Georgeadis was born in Hyannis, MA on September 20, 1927, the daughter of Evimeros and Marigo (Pazakis) Fournaris. She is a graduate of Reading High School and the Bryland Beauty School. She worked as a cosmetologist at Claffy's Beauty Shop. She was a choir member and was in the Mother's Club. She is a member of Philoptochos and also works for the annual bazaar.

James and Christine were married on July 27, 1951. They are blessed with two children, Lyvia and Socrates, and four grandchildren, Christine, Kathy, James, and Ann Katherine.

# GERAS

**James A.**
**1928-1989**

**Ann (Kontis)**
**1929-**

Ann is the widow of James A. Geras, who passed into eternal life on September 10, 1989. She was born in Lebanon, PA and graduated from Reading Senior High School. Prior to her retirement, Ann worked as a secretary. Among several secretarial jobs, one was in Albright College's Alumni Office and Public Relations; another was at the Muhlenberg Township Commissioners' office where she worked for 20 years.

With respect to her involvement within the Greek community, Ann's participation is commendable. Her list includes choir, Philoptochos, Sunday school, Greek School, the Daughters of Penelope, and helping at the church's annual bazaar.

Ann and James's son, Anthony James, served as an altar boy and attended Greek school. He graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Anthony is currently the Vice President of Finance at a credit union in Bradenton, Florida. Anthony's wife, Patricia, is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School, and she is employed by Ann Taylor, Inc. at Ellenton Premium Outlets in Bradenton, Florida.

Ann has three grandchildren: Kelly Elizabeth, Matthew James and Kristen Elyse, who all graduated from Muhlenberg Senior High School, where they excelled in academics and competitive swimming. Kelly graduated from California University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor of Science degree in Liberal Studies and works as a leasing consultant in Florida with a national chain of owners of Astin Square Management. Matthew is a senior at Florida Southern College and is majoring in political science. He applied for and was granted an internship with a Florida congresswoman at the Washington Center for Political Science for one semester. Kristin is a student at Southwest Florida College, where she is pursuing an Associate degree to become a surgical technician.

Ann's parents, Charles and Mary Kontis, were born on the island of Mytilene. Her mother, Mary, came to the United States as a baby and attended our public schools. Ann also has a sister, Harriet, who retired from the phone company and currently resides in Wyomissing.

# GIOVANIS

**George**
**1947-**

**Joan (Treires)**
**1949-**

George and Joan's Greek roots originate in Sparta, Greece. Their parents were first-generation Greeks born in the United States. John and Freda Giovanis raised their family in Harrisburg, PA, and Dr. George and Chrisanthe Treires established their family roots in Lock Haven, PA.

George and Joan's professional lives revolved around the field of education. Joan is a retired vocal music teacher who taught in various elementary schools in Harrisburg, as well as the Daniel Boone Area School District. She was educated at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1971 and a Master of Education degree in 1972. Her love for music included active participation with the Reading Choral Society. Joan has been quite active in Church organizations for many years, including Sunday School Teacher, Junior Choir Director, Bible School Music Director, and Church Day Camp Volunteer. She maintains an active role as a member of our Church Choir and the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, serving as Executive Board member, Corresponding Secretary and Educational Outreach Chairperson.

George attended Shippensburg State College earning Bachelor of Science and Master of Education degrees. Following a career as an elementary school teacher in the Central Dauphin School District in Harrisburg, he continued his education at Western Maryland College and Lehigh University and received his Doctorate from Nova University in 1982. George served as a school administrator in the Pottstown and Boyertown Area School Districts. Prior to retirement as a school principal, he was selected as a National Distinguished Principal representing Pennsylvania in 1999. His community involvement includes serving as President of the following organizations: Order of AHEPA in Reading, Pennsylvania Association of Elementary School Principals, and the Pottstown Kiwanis Club.

George and Joan were married in 1973 and have raised two sons. John is a financial consultant with Wells Fargo Advisors in Pittsburgh. Christopher, an attorney with the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry, resides in York, PA with his wife, Kate, and three children, Panayiotis, Kassiani and Seraphima.

# GOLFINOPOULOS
**"GEORGE"**

**Paul "Panagiotis"**
**1879-1959**

**Jennie "Evyenia" (Kokonis)**
**1892-1963**

**Frances**
**1918-**

Paul Golfinopoulos was born in 1879 in Patras, Greece. He received his high school education there and went into business as a manufacturer of building materials. After his service as a bugler in the Greek Army, Paul trained many young Greek men in the martial arts in preparation for serving their country in an emergency situation. He arrived at Ellis Island on November 3, 1909. His first residence was in Shoemakersville where he worked for the Glen Gery Company. Later he worked for Constantine Mantis, who was Godfather to two of his children, at the Crystal Restaurant. In 1930 he applied and received a patent for artificial marble.

Jennie was born in Koroni, Greece in 1892. She arrived at Ellis Island on April 17, 1911. She settled in Reading to be with her family. She was the cousin of Thomas and Katie (Lampros) Pasyotis. Jennie was a very skilled needle worker and her beautiful work is still displayed by her granddaughter.

Paul was introduced to Jennie and they married in 1911. Reverend Petridis, a priest traveling from Philadelphia, performed the ceremony. They raised seven children in the Orthodox traditions. Their children were: John (deceased), Lula (deceased at birth), Helen (deceased), Frances, Margaret, Theodore, Lillian (deceased) and Mary (deceased). There were eight grandchildren (one deceased) and there are nine great grandchildren.

They were both very active in the church with Paul being one of the organizers of the first church and serving on the church board. Jennie taught Greek school in the early years. She was also the fourth President of St. Xenia Philoptochos serving in 1938 and 1939.

Frances, daughter of the Golfinopoulos Family, remained with her parents until they passed away. She trained many young people in various phases of hosiery manufacturing at Berkshire International. In that capacity she traveled throughout the United States and Canada. In 1962 she lived in Japan for a year when Berkshire opened a factory in Kyoto. Frances is currently in a nursing home, but when she was able she was a very active member of church. She regularly attended church and was a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos. She served as President of the Daughters of Penelope Proteus Chapter #197.

# GOODHART

**Richard**
**1931-**

**Lula (Carnoles)**
**1932-**

Richard was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1931. He received a degree in Physics from Albright College and a degree in Engineering from Rensselaer San Diego State. He was a Physicist for the Department of Navy, Naval Weapons Lab; Project Engineer for United Technologies, Pratt and Whitney Division; Project Engineer, National Aerospace Plane and Commercial Military Engines; and Test Conductor for the Missile Site, Plattsburgh, New York.

Lula was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1932 and has a twin sister Mary. She graduated from Reading High School and McCann Business School. She was a secretary at an insurance company in San Francisco, California and a secretary for United Technologies in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Richard was an active member of St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church in West Palm Beach, Florida. He served as the Parish Council President for four years.

Lula was a Sunday School teacher at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church before moving from the area. She was a member of the Philoptochos Society at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Hartford, Connecticut, serving as the Secretary. She was an active member of the Philoptochos Society at St. Catherine Greek Orrthodox Church in West Palm Beach, Florida. Currently she is an active member of St. Xenia Philoptochos at our church.

Richard (deceased) and Lula have two children. Their son Richard graduated from University of Florida and is an architect. Their daughter Despina (Vielleux) graduated from University of Florida with an engineering degree and is a teacher.

# GORDON

**Michael**
**1943-**

**Patricia (Efstration)**
**1938-**

Patricia "Paraskivi" Efstration Gordon is the daughter of Theoharis and Andromache Efstration. She was born in Reading. Patricia married Dr. Michael Gordon of New York. Michael is a graduate of Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned his doctorate. He became a board certified radiologist. Patricia also worked in radiology, serving as the chief x-ray technologist for Community General Hospital. Both have retired and currently reside in Reading.

# GRAMMATICAS

**James**
**1891-1985**

**Euterpe (Perides)**
**1901-1957**

James was born in Patras, Greece in 1891. At seventeen years of age, in 1908, James immigrated to America and settled in Reading, PA.

James worked at Textile Machine Works which became North American Rockwell. He was an avid reader and learned the English language quickly. James served on the church council at Sts. Constantine and Helen for many years. He was a founding member of the first church in Reading on Chestnut St. and was instrumental in soliciting funds to have the church built. In addition, he was instrumental in the founding of the Greek School at 8th & Walnut Sts.

Euterpe was born in 1901 in Cos, Greece. In 1923, James and Euterpe married in Cos, Greece and immediately settled in Reading, PA. They had two daughters; Angeliki, wife of James Baxewanis, and Bessie, wife of Gus Diamantoni. They also had five grandchildren.

Euterpe was a good seamstress and gifted cook. She learned the English language (reading and writing) quickly. Euterpe was a faithful member of the Philoptochos for several years.

James passed in 1985 and Euterpe passed away in 1957. May their memory be eternal.

# GREEN

**Despina (Choumbakos)**
**1941-**

Despina Maria (Choumbakos) Green was born on July 9, 1941 in Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Her father, Harry Choumbakos, was born on the island of Lesbos and returned to Nea Loutsa, Atticus, in 1972. Her mother, Bessie (Patsourakos) Choumbakos was from Gythion, Peleponese.

Despina attended the Reading public schools and graduated from Reading High School in 1959. She also attended classes at Albright College. Despina worked for many years in Marketing & Sales for the Senior Living Industry, from which she is now retired.

An active parishioner, Despina has served our church as a member of the choir and as a Sunday School teacher. She is also a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and a frequent volunteer for the Church's monthly Food Pantry.

Despina is the proud mother of four children: Harry E. Dimitriou, age 53; Elizabeth V. (Wagner) Dowiak, 44; David N. Wagner, 42; and Christopher C. Wagner, 39. She is also blessed with six grandchildren.

# GRIFFITH

**Theodora**
**1943-**

Theodora (Marmarou) Griffith was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1943. She is the daughter of George and Carnation (Halkias) Marmarou. Theodora attended college for two years and is currently retired.

Her father, George, was an active member of the Greek American Progressive Association. Her mother, Carnation, was a dedicated member of the Church choir and of the ladies auxiliary of the GAPA.

# HALULAKOS

**Nicholas**
**1888-1958**

**Evangelia (Tritakis)**
**1897-1983**

Nicholas Halulakos was born in Marathia Gytheion, Greece on December 11, 1888 and passed into eternity on November 14, 1958. He immigrated to the United States on May 10, 1907. Evangelia Tritakis was born in Stotza, Sparta, Greece in 1897 and passed into eternity on February 20, 1983. She immigrated to the United States in 1922.

Nicholas owned and ran a restaurant and Evangelia worked in the home. Nicholas served several terms as parish council president and was also the chair of the Greek school committee. Nicholas and Evangelia had two children: George N. Halulakos, and John N. Halulakos.

# HARRIS

**Haralambos Kikirikos**
**1879-1955**

**Pantoula (Kageos)**
**1891-1990**

Haralambos and his wife, the former Pantoula Kageos, were born in Asia Minor, he in 1879 and she in 1891. He arrived in America in 1909, and she followed 10 years later.

Haralambos and Pantoula became the proud parents of six children: Anthony, Helen, Michael, Stella, Sophie, and James. During their lifetime, they were faithful members of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and instilled their faith in all of their children.

Haralambos was a skilled machinist and was able to put that talent to use at the Textile Machine Works, where he was employed until his retirement. He passed away in 1955. His beloved wife lived to be 99 years old. Their six children are also deceased. Haralambos and Pantoula will live on in the memories of their 12 grandchildren. One of those grandchildren is James Sianis, who attends church regularly and is an active member of our community.

# HATZAS

**Nicholas G.**
**1892-1948**

**Aphrodite (Caravasilli)**
**1897-1979**

Nickolas Hatzas was born in 1892 in the town of Christianohorion, which is in the western part of Turkey. Many Greeks who were born in Turkey refer to their homeland as Asia Minor. Nickolas and his brothers, Costa, Efthemion, and Louis, are the children of George and Pipina Hatzas. Nickolas's family lived on a farm where they raised food crops and a few animals. In addition to farming, Nickolas became proficient with woodworking skills. In 1913, Nickolas fled Turkey because of the Turkish/Greek revolution prior to World War I. A relative, Charalambos Kikirikou, met Nickolas in Ellis Island. When they arrived in Reading, Nickolas was re-united with his brother, Efthemion; they lived together on S. 7th St.

Aphrodite and her brothers, Costi and Nicholaos, were born in Christianohorion. Their parents, Vasilios and Eugenia Caravasilli, lived on a farm, and earned a living from selling their crops. This section of Turkey is noted for its agriculture. Aphrodite learned how to cook and sew when she was a young girl. To supplement the family income, Aphrodite worked as a servant. In August 1916, at the age of 19, Aphrodite left Turkey for a better life. The first part of her voyage took Aphrodite to Mytilene; from there she embarked on the ship, *Dante Alighiere,* which sailed from Naples, Italy to America. Before marrying Nickolas, her childhood sweetheart, in 1916, Aphrodite lived with her older brother.

Nickolas was employed by Textile Machine Works, a large factory that manufactured knitting machines for its various businesses and for other knitting businesses in America and in Europe. Many early immigrants worked there and at the companion factory, Berkshire Knitting Mills, which produced stockings, lace, and other fabrics. Aphrodite was a homemaker at the request of her husband who wanted her to take care of their seven children: George, Mary, Lewis, Helen (died in infancy), another Helen, Christy and James. Aphrodite was a member of GAPA and Philoptochos, was an extraordinary cook and baker, embroidered items for their home, went to Greek dances with her husband and children, and pleasantly entertained guests with a never-ending smile and delicious food. Nickolas used his early training in farming to plant bountiful gardens, used his early woodworking skills to make an arbor for his grape vines, and crafted beautiful pieces of furniture for his family and relatives. Nickolas died in 1948 at the age of 56; Aphrodite died in 1979 at the age of 82.

# HATZAS

**Lewis**
**1921-2008**

Lewis is a first-generation Greek American who was born in Reading in 1921. He and his six siblings are the children of Nickolas and Aphrodite Hatzas, who emigrated from their native land of Turkey to America in the early 1900s. Greek was spoken at home, but he quickly learned English when he was in elementary school. In addition to going to church with his family, Lewis enjoyed going to church dances and picnics where he looked forward to seeing his numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

In April 1942, when he was 21 years old, Lewis began his service in the U.S. Navy. He was assigned to the Destroyer Squadron Eight on the *USS Wainwright,* where he held the ranks of Seaman 2/C, Sonarman 3/C and Sonarman 2/C. Lewis was entitled to wear the following decorations: American Area Medal, European African Middle Eastern Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Ribbon and Commendation Ribbon. For courage displayed in action against a German submarine, Lewis received a letter of commendation from the Navy. The letter discloses that "with extreme accuracy and skill, Hatzas made the original contact with the hostile undersea craft and launched the first attack against her, thereby contributing to the eventual destruction of the submarine and the capture of many of her crew." Lewis was honorably discharged January 25, 1946.

After his discharge, Lewis worked for Berkshire Knitting Mills as a knitter's helper, Polymer Corporation, and repaired film projectors for the Reading School District Audio Visual Department and the Berks County Intermediate Unit Audio Visual Department.

Lewis was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Cacoosing Gun Club, where he practiced skeet shooting. An avid hunter, he liked to catch small game in Berks and Potter counties with a rifle and a bow and arrow. Favorite activities were bowling frequently with a group of Greek friends and eating breakfast together at a local restaurant, where they discussed topics of interest. Sailing and fishing at Blue Marsh with relatives and friends in his small boat was another favorite hobby. He often took freshly caught trout home to his mother who prepared a tasty meal for the family. Lewis learned woodworking skills from his father. He liked to make beautifully crafted pieces for family and friends.

# HATZAS

**Helen**
**1926-**

Helen is the daughter of Nickolas and Aphrodite (Caravasilli) Hatzas who were among the early Greek immigrants in Reading. They emigrated from Pergamos, Turkey to escape the revolution in their native land. Nickolas arrived at Ellis Island in 1914, and then traveled to Reading to live with a relative. Aphrodite came to the United States in 1916 and she, too, lived with a relative until she and Nickolas were married. Helen has one surviving brother, Christy. The names of the other siblings are George, Mary, Louis, Helen (she died when she was an infant) and James.

When Helen was a 12-year old student at Northwest Junior High School, she won a handwriting contest titled "The Palmer Method of Business Writing", which was sponsored by the A. N. Palmer, Company. She was given a blue and gold medal and a junior certificate for "Legible Rapid Handwriting". The certificate was given in New York, NY. Prior to her retirement, Helen worked at Western Electric and AT&T.

Among her church-related social activities, Helen went to dances where she danced Greek and American dances with her relatives and friends. Another favorite summer-time event was the annual church picnic, which was held at the former Milton Christ farm located in Sinking Spring. Families brought their own delicious Greek foods with them in picnic baskets. One of the fun activities was playing baseball; the boys played, the girls delighted in watching the boys. The farm was acquired by Stelios Apsokardu who continued to allow the church to use the land for picnics. The farm was sold; now it is a development known as Reedy Run, where very lovely homes have been built on the former farm fields.

Helen was an active member and past Vice-President of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She also helped at the annual bazaars by working in the gift room and by putting syrup on the hand-made Greek pastries before she put individual pastries into the paper baking cups.

Currently, Helen lives in Wyomissing with her niece, Marian Cheri.

# HATZAS

**Christy**
**1928-**

Christy is one of seven children born to Nickolas and Aphrodite (Caravasilli) Hatzas who emigrated from their native land of Turkey. Before he started first grade, Christy knew only a little bit of English because Greek was the language spoken at home. He quickly learned to speak English because he had older brothers and sisters who helped him.

When he was a young boy, Christy loved going to the farm of his godfather's brother, Al Dalaveris, where he liked to help with the gardening and the chickens. During the summer, Christy enjoyed going to Wildwood, NJ with his godfather, James Dalaveris, who was a chef in one of the restaurants; Christy was thrilled to earn money as a bus boy.

When Christy was a student at Southwest Junior High School, he played basketball, baseball, soccer, and ran track. Because he loved baseball so much, Christy became a bat boy at the Lauer's Park baseball field, where many local teams played. Lauer's Park Elementary School, located at Third and Walnut Sts. in Reading, was built on the former baseball field. His favorite viewing sport is football, and he is a loyal fan of the Philadelphia Eagles.

At the age of 22, Christy was a member of the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was sent to Paris, France, where he stayed for two years. After his discharge, Christy worked as an inspector for the Textile Machine Works, Rockwell, and Arrow International.

A life-long lesson that Christy learned from his mother, who was well-known for her delicious Greek and Asia Minor cooking and baking, is how to cook the same meals (using her recipes) that he enjoys so much. Although he cooks his own meals, Christy looks forward to the church's annual food bazaar, where he can be seen in the dining room and Taverna eating and conversing with his many relatives and friends while he listens to Greek music. Christy learned to use carpentry tools and machines from his father who was an excellent carpenter. Christy still uses the skills his father taught him when he repairs and makes furniture for himself, his relatives, and his friends.

# HATZAS

**Augustus**
**1935-**

**Athens (Mandolos)**
**1936-**

Augustus was born in Reading January 1, 1935. He was raised and educated in Reading. Augustus then graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in Health and Physical Therapy from East Stroudsburg University, from there then attended and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with his Physical Therapist degree and has been a practicing physical therapist since then.

Augustus married Athens (Mandolos) who was born and raised in Reading as well. They have two children: Athena and Victoria. He served on the Parish Council for 5 years and was Parish Council President in 1987.

Augustus was involved and active in many community organizations as a member of the Board of Directors in the following organizations: Bern Township Board of Supervisors, Reading Area Community College Foundation, Berks Easter Seal Society, Ashland Medical Center and also was a long time member of the Masons, holding various offices in all these organizations for many years.

# HATZISTAVRAKIS

**Stratos**
**1938-**

**Irene (Avaginou)**
**1953-**

Stratos Hatzistavrakis was born in 1938, in Polichnitos, Lesvos, Greece. He came to the United States in 1972. He was employed for many years as a welder at Dana Corporation.

Stratos married Irene Avaginou, who also immigrated to America from Polichnitos, Lesvos, Greece. They are the parents of Harry Hatzistavrakis who is 33 years old and a graduate of Reading High School. Their daughter, Rhea H. Antonellos, is 34 years old and a graduate of Penn State University and Alvernia University.

They are the proud grandparents of one grandson.

# HELM

**Scott**
**1962-**

**Angel Lee (Dialectos)**
**1962-**

Angel Lee Helm, born in Reading, PA, is the daughter of George and Joanne Dialectos. She has two siblings, Maria Care and Athan Dialectos. She is a 1980 graduate of Reading High School. She received her undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Gettysburg College in 1984 and her Master's Degree in Business Administration from St. Joseph's University in 1986. She began her banking career in 1984 at American Bank and Trust Co. and retired 29 years later as a Senior Vice President and Director of Investment Banking from Wells Fargo Securities in 2013.

Angel is very active in the Berks County community. She has served for many years on the Boards of various organizations that include The Reading Public Museum, The Wyomissing Area School District, The Berks Visiting Nurses Association, Alvernia University, The Caron Foundation Finance Committee, and The Reading Education Foundation, to name a few. She is an active volunteer in our Church where she currently serves on the Parish Council. She chaired the Parish's Centennial Anniversary Capital Campaign, served as a Sunday School Teacher as well as the Director of the Parish's Vacation Bible School for several years. Angel also previously served as Chair of our Parish Stewardship Committee and is a member of The Philoptochos Ladies Society.

In 1988, Angel married Robert Scott Helm, son of William Helm and Wendy Fox. Scott was born in Springfield, Massachusetts. He was chrismated in 1988 and was an active member of St. Matthew's Parish Council from 1997-2001. He is currently a member or our local AHEPA chapter at Sts. Constantine and Helen. In addition, he previously served as co-chairman of the Church Bazaar. Scott is the President and CEO of American Powernet, LLP, a national utility consulting company he founded in 1992. He is active in the community as well serving on several local boards such as the YMCA, and the Police Athletic League. He was a co-founder of the Wyomissing School District Lacrosse Club and was the High School head lacrosse coach for seven years.

Scott and Angel believe their greatest blessing and gift from God is the birth of each of their three children; Austin, 22, a graduate of Richmond University; Grayson 20, attending Bucknell University, and Joanna,13, currently in 8th grade at Wyomissing Junior/Senior High School.

# HOFFMAN

**Timothy**
**1961-**

**Denise (Gallas)**
**1953-**

Timothy was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on April 17, 1961 to Raymond and Gloria Hoffman. He graduated from high school. He is Manager of the Intercity Bus Terminal in Reading.

Denise (Gallas) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on March 25, 1953 to Louis X. and Pauline Gallas. Her Greek heritage is from Vlachokerasia on her maternal side and Mytilene on her paternal side. She graduated from Reading High School and received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Kutztown University. She is retired from teaching.

Timothy and Denise were married on June 14, 1997.

Denise attended Sunday School and Greek School and was a member of GOYA. She is currently a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos.

# HOLDEN

**Marilyn (Yatron)**
**1931-**

Marilyn was born in Reading and graduated from Reading Sr. High School, where she ranked third in a class of over 700 students. When Marilyn was in elementary school, she entered a national handwriting contest sponsored by the A.N. Palmer Company. All entrants were required to write Abraham Lincoln's famous "Gettysburg Address", using their best Palmer method of cursive writing. Marilyn learned she had won second place when she was given a large silver medal. She received a scholarship to Albright College, graduated from that institution with the foreign language award, and ultimately was offered a teaching associateship to Indiana University, where she taught French 101 and French 102. She culminated her education as a Fulbright Scholar and spent a year in France pursuing further studies.

At Indiana University, Marilyn met Gary Rees Holden, a pre-med student at the time and whom she eventually married. Gary graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine with a Doctor of Medicine degree. After several years in private practice, he became an emergency room physician and worked in that capacity until his death.

Marilyn has three children, all of whom are college graduates. Ralli, the oldest of the three, is an attorney and practices family law. Anne-Margret is a graduate of the Philadelphia College of Performing Arts and is currently working as a Clinique consultant. Gregory is a chemist and runs the laboratory for a dentist supply firm in New Jersey.

Marilyn is a daughter of Peter and Rallio Yatron, who emigrated from the island of Mytilene. Her father, Peter, was instrumental in preparing many of the Greeks of his generation to acquire U.S. citizenship. While her husband was helping the early immigrants with becoming American citizens, Rallio used her knowledge of the Greek language to read and to write letters for the ladies who, due to unfortunate circumstances, had a limited education in their native land of Greece prior to World War I.

# HUNSICKER

**Scott**
**1970-**

**Marisa Christen (Kraras)**
**1976-**

Scott, the son of Thomas and Susan Hunsicker, was born March 10, 1970 in Philadelphia, PA. He is a native of Conshohocken, PA, a 1988 graduate of Plymouth-Whitemarsh High School, and in 1992, he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Marketing and Psychology from Albright College in Reading. In 2015, he will be employed by the Reading Fightin Phils for 24 years, and serve his ninth year as the team's General Manager, who oversees all of the team's business operations, including managing the full-time Fightins staff of 24 employees.

Scott received the Eastern League Executive of the Year Award in both 2007 and 2012. Also, under his leadership, the Reading Fightin Phils franchise has received numerous distinguished awards by Minor League Baseball, including best promotional team, best operational team, and Class AA winner of the decade.

In addition to his responsibilities as General Manager of the Reading Fightin Phils, Scott serves on the Board of Directors for the United Way of Berks County, Baseballtown Charities, and Greater Reading Convention and Visitors Bureau. He also helps coach Liberty Youth Baseball.

On December 26, 2003, Scott married Marisa Kraras, daughter of Christ and Ann Kraras, granddaughter of Gust and Stella Kraras, and George and Mary Baxewanis. Marisa's paternal grandparents and great-grandparents' roots are from Terpsithea, Greece and Lesbos, Greece. Her maternal great-grandparents were from Kos, Greece and Aretsou (near Istanbul), Turkey. Marisa is a 1995 Wilson High School graduate, and in 1999 received a Bachelor of Science in Education degree from Penn State University, State College, PA, where she served as President of her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta, and both volunteered and danced for the world acclaimed Penn State Dance Marathon (THON), a benefit for pediatric cancer.

Born on Christmas day, 1976, Marisa has followed her family's strong commitment to our church. She attended Sunday School from pre-school through high school graduation, was a GOYA member, and received the Orthodox Youth Award as a high school senior. As an adult, she serves as a Sunday School teacher, Vacation Bible School director and teacher, co-chairs the Kraras Family Scholarship for high school seniors of our parish, and works with the JOY group.

Marisa has been a member of the Junior League of Reading, PA, Inc. since 2007, has served on its Board of Directors for four years, and will be its President in 2015-2016. She also volunteers at her children's Wilson Spring Ridge Elementary School.

Scott and Marisa have three sons, who all attend church, Sunday School, and Vacation Bible School regularly. Two are Altar Boys, participate in JOY, and are students at Wilson's Spring Ridge Elementary School: Tommy, age 9, in 3rd grade, and Christo, age 8, in 2nd grade. Gram, age 5, attends pre-school at the Jewish Community Center in Wyomissing.

# IOANNIDI

**Joseph "Theofrastos"**
**1924-2006**

**Filomena "Fotoula" (DiRocco)**
**1928-2012**

Joseph "Theofrastos" Ioannidi was born on the island of Kos, Greece on October 8, 1924, one of the eight children of John and Despina (Savaidis) Ioannidi. He had two brothers: Evangelos of Kos, deceased; and Gabriel in Athens. Theofrastos also had five sisters: Katina Regini of Belgium, deceased; Flora Pampris of New York, deceased; Theodora Yianoulis of Reading, deceased; Maritsa Orfanoudakis of Kos, deceased; and Cleopatra Diakoyiannis of Kos. Theofrastos completed high school (gymnasio) in Kos while it was under Italian control and, like most others living on the island, learned to speak Italian fluently. He was subsequently drafted to serve in the Italian Army during World War II.

Filomena, known within the Greek community as Fotoula, was born in Patras, Greece on July 8, 1928. She was the daughter of Constantino and Christina (Meligrano) DiRocco. Fotoula's father was of Italian descent, hailing from the Abruzzi region of Italy. Her mother's family had roots in the island of Chios. Fotoula, the oldest of the children, had one brother, Biagio DiRocco (deceased), and four sisters: Isabella Bernardini, Maria Breccia, Adriana Santovito, and Anna Campilli, all still residing in Italy. While they were born and raised in Greece, the children were brought up in the Roman Catholic faith. Fotoula attended a private Roman Catholic school until her education was interrupted by World War II.

Following the war, Theofrastos and Fotoula met in Naples, Italy. They married in 1947 and started a family. Theofrastos was employed as a bookkeeper but subsequently opened a grocery store/deli with a partner. In 1956, the family immigrated to the United States and made their home in Reading, Pennsylvania, where Theofrastos' sister Theodora resided. Both found work in the garment industry, first at Oritsky's and later at David Crystal/Izod. Subsequently, Theofrastos learned the building trade and eventually started J. T. Ioannidi Custom Drywall, which he operated until his retirement in 1999. Fotoula was a sewing machine operator and retired from David Crystal in 1990.

Theofrastos and Fotoula were lifelong members of our parish, and Fotoula was eventually Chrismated in the Greek Orthodox faith. They were the proud parents of three children: John, born in 1948 in Naples, Despina (Denne), born in 1950 in Naples, and Constantino (Dino), born in 1963 in Reading. They enjoyed six wonderful grandchildren, Christos, Stephanie, Elizabeth, Olivia, Ariana, and Vanessa, as well as four great grandchildren: Mia, Isabel, Natalie, and Calvin. Theofrastos passed away in September, 2006 and Fotoula in January, 2012.

# IOANNIDI

**John**
**1948-**

**Frances (Schera)**
**1944-**

John, the oldest of the three children of Theofrastos and Fotoula (DiRocco) Ioannidi, was born in 1948 in Ducenta, Italy. In 1956, John immigrated with his parents and sister Despina (Denne) to the United States, settling in downtown Reading near relatives. John attended the Reading public schools and graduated from Penn State University in 1970 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He also completed post-graduate work in Engineering Science. Subsequently, John passed the tests to obtain a professional engineer license in both Pennsylvania and Ohio, and he is a registered environmental expert in harmful radiation in Bulgaria. John worked at Med-Ed and was employed by Gilbert/Commonwealth (later WorleyParsons) for 40 years as an electrical engineer, project manager, and ultimately as Director International Nuclear Projects. Although he is now retired, John continues to provide consulting services for international nuclear projects through his own consulting company. John is a member of numerous organizations related to his technical field.

John is an active member of our parish, having participated in Sunday School, Greek School and GOYA. Over the years, he has served on the Parish Council in many capacities, is a member of AHEPA, and serves on the church kitchen crew. John is also an avid pilot and golfer.

Fran was born and educated in Reading and upon graduating from high school moved to New York City to attend the Traphagen School of Fashion. Upon her return to Reading, Fran worked at Boscov's and the Reading-Berks Credit Bureau. Fran and John met and began corresponding while he was attending Penn State. Shortly after his graduation in 1970, John and Fran were married and subsequently started a family. Fran is an active member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, dedicating many hours to the knitting ministry and preparing kolyva for memorials. She also regularly volunteers her time as an office helper to prepare various church mailings.

Over the years, John's assignments have taken him for short and long durations to many places in the U.S. and overseas, including the former Yugoslavia, Slovenia, Croatia, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Bulgaria and many other locations. On long-term assignments during which the family has lived out of state and overseas for extended periods, Fran has been the key to maintaining the family's well-being and assuring the continuation of a healthy and happy family life.

John and Fran have four children and four grandchildren. Christos is a patent attorney and lives in Chester Springs with his wife Jennifer (Eckel) and their daughters Isabel and Natalie. Olivia is a homemaker and lives in Shillington with her husband Brian and their children Mia and Calvin. John and Fran also have twin daughters, Stephanie and Elizabeth, who live at home.

# IOANNIDIS

**Andreas**
**1946-**

**Kathryn (Yacomes)**
**1945-**

Andreas Ioannidis was born on March 20, 1946, in Pireaus, Greece, to Panagiotis and Maria (Vlavianou) Ioannidis. After completing high school, he went into business with his brother, manufacturing and selling pocketbooks in Athens. He immigrated to the U.S. on January 13, 1969, and settled in Reading, where he went to work for his brother-in-law, Mike Firilas, as a painting contractor. Andreas eventually started his own business, Berks Painting and Sandblasting Co., until his retirement in 2012.

Kathryn Yacomes was born on May 30, 1945, in Lebanon, PA, to Emannuel "Mike" and Evangelia "Eva" (Sterjeos) Yacomes. The family moved to Reading and Kathy graduated from Reading High School in 1963.

Andreas and Kathryn were married in a civil ceremony on December 23, 1969, followed by an Orthodox ceremony on May 24, 1970, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

Kathy worked at the Reading Eagle as an Executive Secretary from 1963 to 1975, then went to work for the former National Central Bank from 1975 to 1981. She worked for Wachovia Bank from 1990 to 2006, then at PNC Bank and Santander Bank, retiring in May 2013.

Andreas served on the Parish Council and was a longtime member of the AHEPA and GAPA in Reading. He also volunteered at the Greek Food Bazaar. Kathy was a Sunday School aide and a member of the Choir.

Andreas and Kathy have three children. Anastasia "Stacie" was born on January 13, 1975. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Accounting/Finance and a Minor Degree in HR from Alvernia University in 2012. She lives in Spring Township with her son, Michael, 19, a graduate of Wilson High School, and works in the Accounting Department at the Reading Museum. Angela was born on June 24, 1979, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology from Kutztown University. She works for Gateway Bank in Richmond, VA, where she currently resides. Panagiotis "Taki" was born on September 22, 1981, and earned an Associate's Degree in Graphic Arts from Lehigh University in 2005. He works in Sales for the Pennsylvania Steel Co. in Allentown. Taki married Justina Huntzinger on May 30, 2010, in Sts. Constantine and Helen Church. Justina is a nurse at the Reading Hospital and the couple resides in North Heidelberg Twp. with their two daughters, Isidora Irene, born November 26, 2012, and Aria Marie, born March 11, 2014.

# KACHEL

**Alan E.**
**1959-**

Alan E. Kachel was born in West Reading on October 1, 1959, the son of Harold L. and Miriam S. Kachel.

Alan grew up in West Reading and graduated from Wyomissing High School in 1977. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Albright College in 1981 and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Albright College in 1986.

Alan is the Assistant Controller at Terre Hill Concrete Products. Currently a resident of Kenhorst, Alan is also active in the Kenhorst Community Watch.

Alan was Chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 1992 and has been a dedicated servant during church services ever since, assisting in the Altar area most Sundays, and reading the Epistle during Divine Liturgy.

Alan is a fixture at the Greek Food Bazaar every year, helping in the Gyro Sandwich Area for nearly two decades. He has also served as a member of the church Auditing Committee.

# KAFKARISOU

**Nicholas**
**-1958**

**Feroniki (Giovanellis)**
**1902-1978**

Feroniki Giovanellis was born in Mytilene, Greece in 1902. She immigrated to the United States in 1914. Upon arriving in America, she settled in Reading, PA. Here, she met and married Nicholas Kafkarisou. Nicholas was an active member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. When the need arose, he often generously donated his financial assistance to the Church.

Feroniki is fondly remembered as a hard working member of the Philoptochos Society from the 1940s thru the 1960s. She could usually be found in the kitchen at the 8th and Court Church, often producing her specialty pastry, “loukoumathes” after services during Great Lent.

# KAGEOS

**Ignatius**
**1923-2008**

**Estella (Soumas)**
**1939-**

Ignatius "Iggy" Kageos was born in Reading, PA and was a lifetime member of the Church. His parents, Anastasia and Helen came from Asia Minor and immigrated to the United States in the early 1900s. Iggy was always seen working hard during the annual Bazaar. Iggy was a Sergeant for the Reading Police Force and along with his wife Estella "Stella" owned and operated Lewis Tavern in Hyde Park for 22 years. Iggy graduated from Reading High School and was later honored by his alma mater as "Alumni of the Year".

Stella was born in Reading as the daughter of William, who emmigrated from Mytilene Greece, and Lois Soumas. She is a graduate of Reading High School. A lifetime member of the Church, Stella continues to volunteer her time at the annual Bazaar.

Their two children are Kimberly (51) and John (47).

# KAISOGLUS

**Peter**
**1931-**

**Rose A. (Piccone)**
**1931-2013**

Peter was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on August 31, 1931 to the late Maria and Efthimios Kaisoglus. He graduated from Reading High School. Peter retired from Jetco, where he was a driver and in sales.

Rose was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on April 10, 1931. She graduated from Reading High School. Rose passed away in 2013.

Peter and his family were active at St. Matthews Greek Orthodox Church before joining Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Peter helps with the Philoptochos and Bazaar baking dates.

Peter and Rose are the parents of two sons, Jeffrey P. and Stephen M. Jeffrey was a graduate of Muhlenberg High School. He received his B.S. in Physical Education from West Chester University. He was a teacher at Conrad Weiser School District until his death. Stephen is a graduate of Muhlenberg High School. He attended Kutztown University. Stephen currently lives at home with his father.

# KALLIS

**Gregory**
**1949-**

**Lisa Labrini (Trihias)**
**1952-**

Gregory was born on August 14, 1949 in Mani, Greece. He married Lisa Labrini Trihias, who was born on April 30, 1952 in Karpenisi, Greece, and they are the proud parents of three sons: Vasilios, Panagiotis, and Nicholas.

Gregory came to the United States in 1970 and he and Lisa have served the church since moving to Reading in 1986. Gregory is the owner of Arner's restaurant and is a member of AHEPA. Lisa has volunteered as a Sunday School teacher, belonged to Philoptochos, and sung in the Hellenic Choral Society.

Vasilios Kallis is a graduate of Albright College where he earned a bachelor's degree with a double major in History and Religion. He also has earned three master's degrees: a Master of Arts from Regent University in Virginia, a Master of Divinity from St. Vladimir's Seminary in New York, and a Master of Theological Studies from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary in Boston.

Panagiotis Kallis also graduated from Albright College, earning a bachelor's degree with a double major in Education and History. He is the director for the national PTA headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. He and his wife Glykeria Kallis, a teacher, have a lovely daughter, Melina Labrini.

Nicholas Kallis, a history teacher at Oley Valley High School, graduated from Albright College, earning a bachelor's degree with a double major in Religion and History. Nicholas attended Villanova University on a full scholarship, where he earned a master's degree in History. He is married to Stephanie Kallis who is also a teacher.

# KARETAS

**Haralambos E.**
**1882-1932**

**Annetta (Bekris)**
**1890-1979**

Haralambos Karetas was born in Polichnitos, Lesvos in 1882. Haralambos moved to Cairo, Egypt in 1904 to find employment. He married Annetta, daughter of Alexandros and Irene Bekris in 1906 in Cairo, Egypt. Haralambos migrated to America in 1914 to establish a new home with the promise of freedom and greater economic stability.

In 1920, Haralambos traveled back to Amorgos to bring his wife, Annetta, and their four children to America. In America Haralambos was employed at the Berkshire Knitting Mills as a chef in the cafeteria.

Haralambos and Annetta were the parents of eight children. Efstathios, Katina and Alexandros were born in Cairo, Egypt. Their son Dimitrios "James" was born in Amorgos, Greece. After their arrival in America, their remaining four children, Jeannette, Tommy, Angelo and Irene were born.

Haralambos died at the early age of 50 while his wife, Annetta, lived to be 89.

May their memory be eternal.

# KARETAS

**Angelo Harry**
**1923-1998**

**Mary (George)**
**1926-2008**

Angelo Karetas was born in Reading, PA on May 17, 1923 to Haralambos and Annetta (Bekris) Karetas. Angelo had three sisters (Katina, Jeannette, and Irene) and four brothers (Efstathios, Alexandros, James, and Tommy). His father came from Polichnitos, Lesvos and his mother came from Amorgos, an island in the Cyclades. Angelo graduated from Reading High School. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Angelo was an owner/manager of various restaurants in Reading and Wyomissing, PA; Myrtle Beach, SC; Syracuse, NY; and Union, NJ.

Mary was also born in Reading, PA on April 10, 1926 to Paul and Evgenia "Jenny" (Kokonis) George. Her father came from Patras, Peloponnese, Greece and her mother came from Koroni, Peloponnese, Greece. Mary graduated from Reading High School. She assisted in Angelo's restaurants and also worked at Western Electric/A.T. & T. as a technician. She was also involved in the Olivet Boys & Girls Club.

Angelo and Mary were married on September 20, 1946. They were the parents of Jennifer Mowbray (1952-2011) and John (b. 1954) and the grandparents of Kara, Matthew, Alex, and Jordan.

Angelo was a member of the William Penn Chapter of AHEPA. Mary was a member of the Ladies Philoptochos Society and also sang in the Church Choir at St. Matthew's.

Angelo was known for his love of family, his generosity, and his vibrant personality. Mary was known for her kindness to all, her many friendships, and love of family. Angelo died on September 20, 1998; Mary died on July 15, 2008.

May their memory be eternal.

# KARETAS

**Nicholas D.**
**1947-**

**Alice A. (Zilles)**
**1951-**

Nicholas D. Karetas was born on September 23, 1947, in Reading, to Efstathios H. and Irene (Xavios) Karetas.

His father was born in Cairo, Egypt, and his mother was born in the United States. His grandfather, Haralambos E. Karetas, was from Polichnitos, Island of Lesbos, and his grandmother, Annetta (Bekris) Karetas, was originally from the village of Tholaria, Island of Amorgos. His mother's parents, Marianthi (Kritikos) and Panayiotis Xavios, were from Ayia Paraskevi, Island of Lesbos.

Alice A (Zilles) Karetas was born on September 4, 1951, in Reading to Frank and Dorcas Zilles. Alice's parents were both born in Reading. Alice grandparents were from Germany.

Nicholas and Alice were married on September 29, 1973 at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church in Reading. They currently reside in Wyomissing, and have two adult sons, Nicholas S. Karetas, age 38, and Andrew J. Karetas, age 34.

Nicholas graduated from Reading High School in 1965 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Penn State University in 1973, and also took MBA courses. He retired from VF Corporation, Reading, in 2012 as Controller/Financial Officer.

Nicholas has been a member of the Parish Council since 1994, where he has served as Financial Secretary since 2002. He volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar and is a member of the Reading AHEPA chapter. He is also a member of the Institute of Management Accountants and the Jaycees of Reading.

Alice completed three years of college at Penn State and works as an Accounting Supervisor for William G. Koch & Associates in Wyomissing. She is a member of the Philoptochos Society, where she has served as Treasurer since 1991. She is a member of the Choir and volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar and Opportunity House. She was a member of the Junior League of Reading from 1984 to 2000, and served as Treasurer from 1986-1988.

# KATSIGIANNIS

**Spiros**
**1928-**

**Angelique (Berikou)**
**1932-**

Spiros Katsigiannis was born in Voustri, Greece on August 16, 1928. He immigrated to the United States on August 11, 1968.

Angelique Berikou was born on April 13, 1932 in Katouna, Greece.

Spiros owned his own restaurant and is a member of AHEPA. Spiros and Angelique have two children: Nicholas and JoAnne.

# KATZOS

**Anastasios**
**1890-1948**

**Helen "Eleni" (Chincha)**
**1900-1987**

Anastasios Katzos was born in Asia Minor in 1890. He immigrated to the United States as a young man in the late 1800s. He passed away on October 23, 1948.

Helen "Eleni" Katzos was born on February 16, 1900, in Asia Minor to Haralambos and Marianthie Chincha. She immigrated to the United States in 1919. She passed away on February 18, 1987.

Anastasios worked in a textile factory in the Reading, PA area for many years. Helen worked as a seamstress for the Berkshire Knitting Mill.

The couple had three children: Ignatius Katzos, Despina "Dora" (Katzos) Nigrelli; and Evangeline (Katzos) McGowan; and six grandchildren.

# KOCI

**Viktor**
**1944-**

**Emliha (Kokoshi)**
**1950-**

Viktor Koci was born in Berat, Albania on May 15, 1944, the son of Vasil and Kalipso (Jorganxhiu) Koci. He has six siblings: Luiza, Noli, Vladimir, Xhorxhi, Xhulian, and Luci. Viktor was educated in Albania, graduating from Elbasan University with a B.S. in Albanian Language and Literature. Viktor was employed by the high school in Berat, Albania, and retired in the year 2000.

Emliha was also born in Berat, Albania on December 27, 1950. She is the daughter of Abduraman Kokoshi and Nimete Karapiti. She has four siblings: Fatbardha, Nermin, Engjell, and Qeramedin. Emliha graduated from high school in Berat and was employed as a receptionist until her retirement in 2000.

Emliha and Viktor were married in Albania in September 1977 and have two wonderful daughters: Eva (Ross) in Reading, and Armela (Avrami), who resides with her family in Thessaloniki, Greece. The Kocis immigrated to the United States in 2000 to join their daughter, Eva. The family became members of Sts. Constantine & Helen Church, where they are active parishioners. Emliha is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and participates in Easter egg dying each year.

The Kocis are the proud grandparents of three grandchildren: Ethan, age 8 and Joshua, age 5 in Reading, and Maria, age 7, who lives in Albania.

# KONTAXES

**Nicholas**
**1923-1988**

**Mary (Architas)**
**1927-**

Nick Kontaxes was born in Monesssen, PA in 1923 and was educated there. He served in the U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946. He was employed by Rockwell International, rising to the position of Sales Manager until his retirement. Mr. Kontaxes was a very active member of AHEPA and served in various offices, including President of the Chapter. In 1951, Nicholas became president of the community. He made an extra effort to reorganize the Greek School to accommodate the post-war babies who were becoming of school age. His greatest contribution to the community was convincing the members of the Parish Council to adopt the Financial Independence Drive, when he asked the parishioners to buy notes and use the proceeds to retire the Church's mortgage, which was at a high rate of interest. This allowed the Church to be on a greatly improved financial standing.

Mary was born in Reading, PA, in 1927 to Michael and Stamatia Architas, who immigrated to the United States from Asia Minor. Her family was active in the Church since its founding. Her education included an Associate's Degree in Applied Sciences. She worked for many years at Quality Control until her retirement. Mary has been very active in the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society where she served as secretary. She currently volunteers as a docent at the Reading Public Museum and is president of the Phoebe Healthcare Auxillary.

Nick and Mary married and have four children. Athena is a graduate of Albright College. Kathy is a graduate of Temple University. Cynthia and Michael are both graduates of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science. They were blessed with six grandchildren.

# KOSTOMERIS

**James "Demetrios" H.**
**1910-1973**

**Cleo (Spyrellis)**
**1922-**

James and Cleo were both born in Polichnitos, Lesvos, Greece. James was the son of Haralambos and Stavroula (Karetas) Kostomiris. He is the fifth of seven children. Cleo is the daughter of Spyros and Metaxia (Kolara) Spyrellis. She is the second of four children. Her father arrived in the United States in 1908 and lived in Louisiana for many years as a single young man; he later returned to America for a few more years in the 1930s after he had started his family in Lesvos. Because Cleo's father loved America so much, he had a picture of George Washington hanging in the family's home in the village. Her maternal grandmother had donated a parcel of land in their village's fishing district so a Church (St. John) could be built near their summer home.

James and Cleo were married in 1949. Their son, Harry, was born in Mytilene in 1950. They moved to Reading, PA in 1955 when James' sister, Angeliki Dialectos, sponsored their migration to America. In 1961, their daughter, Metaxia, was born in Reading. Harry graduated from Reading High School in 1968 and Metaxia graduated from Reading High School in 1979.

James served in the Greek army for many years and also was a warden/constable. When he moved to Reading, he worked at Luden's for several years. He was an avid small game hunter and loved gardening.

Cleo started working in a clothing factory within a week after arriving in the United States. Her employers included Rachman's, My Lady Sportswear, Fitwell, and Astor Swimwear. She was a member of the International Ladies Garment Wear Union (ILGWU). Some of Cleo's hobbies included vegetable gardening, crocheting, cooking, and sewing. She has a reputation for her delicious vegetarian "yiaprakia" made with her homegrown grape leaves and for her stuffed zucchini flowers, as well as her giouvarlakia (rice meatballs.) She also used to make her own brandy with cherries and grapes as well as many sweets from various fruits such as, quince, grapefruit, and tomato. Her ingredients may be duplicated, but the love in cooking cannot. Her sincere passion in cooking and sewing was shown in the resulting products.

Cleo volunteered in making the honey balls at the Church's Annual Bazaar for many years. She also sewed many of the Altar's coverings and Altar Boy garments.

Cleo has been proud of her triplet grandsons, Nicholas, Demetrios and Michael, for whom she cooked frequently during their youth.

Cleo is a breast cancer survivor since 1995 and is currently homebound.

# KOSTOMIRIS

**Harry James**
**1950-**

Harry "Haralambos" was born November, 1950 in Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece to James "Demetrios" and Cleo (Spyrellis) Kostomeris. Harry and his parents came to the United States in 1955 and settled in Reading where he attended school in the Reading School District, thus graduating from Reading High School in 1968. He attended Drexel University. He also served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam until March, 1972 when he was discharged with the rank of Specialist 4 (SP 4).

Harry has been employed by Carpenter for over 31 years and is anticipating retiring in 2015. His favorite pasttimes include electronics and repairing cars.

Harry attended Sunday School and Greek School when the Church was located on North 8th Street. He was also an Altar Boy.

Harry is the proud father of triplet sons… Nicholas, Demetrios, and Michael… 2008 graduates of Wilson High School. Nicholas graduated from Penn State University with a B.S. in Information Science Technology and Security Risk/Analysis. He is currently employed by Becton, Dickinson & Company (BD) in Franklin Lakes, NJ and living in Ridgewood, NJ. Demetrios graduated magna cum laude from Kutztown University with a B.S. in Biochemistry. He is currently living in College Station, TX and pursuing a PhD in Biochemistry at Texas A & M University. Michael also graduated from Penn State University with a B.A. in Political Science and a Minor in History. All three have attended Sunday School and served as Altar Boys. They also participated in the annual Christmas Pageant.

# KOSTOMERIS

**Metaxia Maria**
**1961-**

Metaxia was born in July, 1961 in Reading, PA to James and Cleo (Spyrellis) Kostomeris. She is named after her maternal grandmother. Metaxia attended schools in the Reading School District where she studied German since the 4th Grade, graduating from Reading High School in 1979. She graduated Cum Laude from Kutztown State College (currently Kutztown University) in 1983 with a BS in Elementary Education with a concentration in Math. She was a substitute teacher in the Reading School District for a few years. She is fluent in Greek and Spanish.

Metaxia has been employed at White Star Tours for almost 30 years. She loves to travel to Greece as often as she can, especially to her ancestral Island of Lesvos, where she has visited 15 times, including two entire summers. She has also attended the Opening Ceremony of the Summer Olympics when the games were brought back to Athens in 2004. She enjoys cross-stitching tremendously as well as computers and flower gardening. She also enjoys spending time with her triplet nephews: Nicholas, Demetrios, and Michael Kostomeris.

Metaxia completed the Greek School program at the Church where she participated in skits and recited poems throughout the elementary years. She attended Sunday School and was a Mirofora. She also assisted fellow co-worker, Des Yianoulis, in teaching an alternative Greek School class for one year.

Metaxia's godparents were Peter and Eleftheria Minas who moved to Lemnos, Greece shortly after Metaxia was baptized. Metaxia is a godmother to three: Joanne Fergadiotis-Priniotakis, who had moved to Athens as a child; Jamie Miller-Siegel, who lives in Fleetwood; and her nephew, Demetrios Kostomeris.

# KOTSAKIS

**Dionisios**
**1940-**

**Maria (Deligiannis)**
**1943-**

Dionisios was born on May 21, 1940 in Filiatra Mesinias, Greece, the son of Constantinos and Evgenia (Kyriakoulis) Kotsakis. He received his formal education in Greece and is a military veteran, having served two years as an officer in the Greek Army. Dionisios immigrated to the United States in July 1966 with his wife, Maria. He attended school to learn the plumbing trade, eventually becoming a master plumber and builder. Along with his brother-in-law, Hippocrates, he owned and operated Olympic Plumbing and Heating, as well as the Crystal Springs Restaurant, which he sold to his brother-in-law after 15 years. Dionisios subsequently started Omega Builders with his son, Gus, and remained involved until his retirement.

Maria "Maro" was born on May 21, 1943 in Petra, Lesvos, Greece and is the daughter of George and Eleni (Zafiriou) Deligiannis. She relocated to Athens at the age of 16, where she found work in the fabric industry and was promoted to manager after one year. After meeting and marrying in Athens, Maria and Dionisios immigrated to the United States with the help of Maria's sister, Kalliope, and brother-in-law, George. The couple lived with Kalliope and George for a time as they began their new life. Maria was employed at Berkshire (Vanity Fair) and has been actively involved in all the family businesses.

Dionisios and Maria are active and dedicated parishioners. Maro has been a member of the Church Choir for more than 45 years, a long-time member of Philoptochos, and a member of the former Daughters of Penelope. She has also volunteered with the Shelter ministry for more than 20 years, serves in the church's food pantry, and lends a hand at the annual Food Bazaar. Dionisios is a member of the William Penn Chapter, Order of AHEPA. Both Maria and Dionisios are former members of GAPA.

Maria and Dionisios are the proud parents of two children: Gus, born in 1967 and married to Tess (Panos); and Marilena, born in 1970, and married to Chris Sterious. They also have five beautiful grandchildren: Dionisios (age 23), Vasilios (age 21), Chris (age 15), Eleni (age 13), and Dionisia (age 10).

# KOTSAKIS

**Constantine**
**1967-**

**Aspasia (Panos)**
**1964-**

Constantine "Gus" Kotsakis was born in Reading in February 1967, the son of Dionisios and Maria Kotsakis. Gus is a lifelong resident of Berks County, and after graduating from high school, he attended Penn State University. He is a successful self-employed general contractor/builder and is currently the owner and President of Omega Builders.

Gus is a lifelong and active member of our Church, having attended Sunday School, Greek School, and GOYA, and he also served as an altar boy through the years. He has been a member of the Parish Council since 2012 and a GOYA basketball coach since 2007. He is also very involved in the many activities leading up to and during our annual Greek Food Bazaar. Since 2012, Gus has been serving as Vice President of the William Penn Chapter of AHEPA.

Aspasia "Tess" was born in Bronx, New York, in August 1964, and is the older daughter of Bill and Anna Panos. Tess graduated from Kutztown University with a B.S. in Elementary Education and has been employed as Director/Teacher at Little People's Nursery since 1999. Like her husband, Tess was raised in the church and attended Sunday School, Greek School, and GOYA. She has served our church by teaching Sunday School for 15 years and is actively involved with the annual Greek Food Bazaar.

Gus and Tess were married in May 1990 and are the proud parents of two sons. Dionisios graduated from Conrad Weiser High School and Elizabethtown College with a degree in Computer Science. He is currently employed as a computer programmer at Masonic Village. Vasilios graduated from Conrad Weiser High School and attended Kutztown University. He is currently employed by Omega Builders, where he is learning the family business. Both sons have been very active in our Church, having attended and graduated from Sunday School and Greek School, served as altar boys, and participated in GOYA. Vasilios continues to be an active member of GOYA, serving as a basketball coach since 2011. Both Dionisios and Vasilios are current members of AHEPA.

# KOUMARAS

**George**
**1890-1990**

**Maria (Odagis)**
**1885-1967**

George Stratton Koumaras was born in Aghia Paraskevi, Mytilene, Greece in April, 1890. His parents, Myrsina and Efstratios Koumaras immigrated to the United States from Mytilene and settled in Reading, Pennsylvania. In 1914, George married the former Maria Odagis; they had three sons, Michael, Stratton, and Hippocrates, and a daughter, Virginia, who was married to Stathis Gasparis before her passing. Michael owned a luncheonette and was a co-owner of a motel in Wildwood, NJ; Stratton and Virginia worked in retail establishments; and Hippocrates worked for the city's park department.

George was a member of the original Church committee formed in 1912 which tried to start a Church in Reading; his name appeared in every meeting or gathering of any kind for the Church throughout the years. He worked long and hard for the Church. He served as President of G.A.P.A. for many years and he also served his Church Community as President and Secretary of the Church for Council

During his administration, the Greek School was always staffed with capable teachers and every effort was made to enroll as many students as possible.

In 1948 while serving as President, he welcomed the then Archbishop and later Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras to our Parish; shortly thereafter, he was instrumental in securing the appointment of the first American-born Priest in our Parish, the Rev. James Aloupis

The 40th Anniversary of our Community was observed during his Presidency in 1954 with an elaborate celebration with Archbishop Michael as the Guest of Honor.

# KOUMARAS

**Stratton G.**
**1915-2007**

**Helen E. (Mavrides)**
**1919-2007**

Stratton was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1915. He graduated from Reading High School. He worked at various retail establishments, ending his working life as a shoe salesman for Bon-Ton. Stratton married Helen Mavrides in 1943. He passed away in 2007.

Helen (Mavrides) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1919. She graduated from Reading High School. She received an Associate Degree from Reading Area Community College. She worked at various jobs, ending her working life at the Berks County Intermediate Unit day care. She passed away less than three months before her husband in 2007.

Both Stratton and Helen were active members of our Church. Stratton served as a member of Parish Council in the 1950s. In his early years he was an altar boy, attended Greek school and was a member of the church choir. Helen was a member of the Mother's Club in the 1950s and was a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos.

They were the parents of two children: George and Barbara (Futrick). Barbara is still an active member of our Church. George moved to California and is active at his Church in California. While attending our church in his early years, he was an altar boy, attended Greek school and sang in the church choir.

They were blessed with five grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren.

May their memory be eternal.

# KOUMARAS

**George Stratton**
**1944-**

**Carolyn (Green)**
**1944-**

George Stratton Koumaras was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1944. His parents, Stratton and Helen (Mavrides) Koumaras immigrated to the United States from Lesvos and Kos, Greece and settled in Reading, Pennsylvania. George is a 1966 graduate of Albright College and received his Master's Degree in Psychology from Villanova University in 1968. George went on to receive his PhD from the California School of Professional Psychology in Fresno, California. He practiced clinical psychology until he retired.

In the midst of his pursuit of higher education, George met and married Carolyn Green and the two married in 1968. Carolyn was chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 1993. She is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Science degree in Certified Clinical Research. She spent most of her career as a Clinical Trials Monitor. George and Carolyn are the parents of Matthew and Amy who were born in 1969 and1972 respectively and the proud grandparents of Grace and Emma.

George and Carolyn moved to California from Pennsylvania in 1975 where they have been active in the Greek Orthodox Church in the communities where they reside. George has served as Vice President of the Parish Council for Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA. He is a member of the Junior Choir, the Stewardship Ministry and a Metropolis Advocate for the San Francisco Diocese. Carolyn served as Vice President and President of the Ladies Philoptochos Society.

# KOUMARAS

**Michael G.**
**1927-**

**Anna (Dialectos)**
**1929-**

Michael was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on August 19, 1927 to George and Mary (Odatzis) Koumaras. His father and mother emmigrated from the Island of Lesvos to the United States. His father came to this country at a very young age. He graduated from Reading High School and McCann's Business School. Michael married Anna on June 5, 1949.

Anna was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on July 3, 1929 to Thomas and Angeliki (Kostomeris) Dialectos. Her parents immigrated to the United States from Mytilene. She graduated from Reading High School.

Michael and Anna operated Mike's Luncheonette in Reading from 1952 until 1986. They bought the Wingate Motel with George and JoAnn Dialectos in 1972. The families operated the Motel from 1972 until 1997. Michael later worked with his son at the Maaco Shop in Allentown.

Michael was on the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church from 1952 until 1960. He was on the Parish Council at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church from 1968 until 1975. Michael was in GAPA from 1965 until 1978.

Anna was the Choir Director at St Matthews Greek Orthodox Church from 1968 until 1997. She was a member of the St Matthews Philoptochos Society. She is currently a member of the St Xenia Philoptochos Society at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Anna loves to help with the Philoptochos and Bazaar baking.

Michael and Anna are the proud parents of three boys: Stavros, Anthony and George. They also have nine grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

# KOUMARAS

**Michael**
**1980-**

**Sophia**
**1982-**

Michael Koumaras was born in Philadelphia in 1980 to George & Lennie (Checchio) Koumaras. His paternal great-grandparents came from Lesvos, Greece while his maternal great-grandparents arrived in the United States from Italy.

Michael graduated from Chestnut Hill Academy and later from Lafayette College. He received his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. He completed his two-year pediatric dental training at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in 2009. He recently became a Diplomat of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the highest achievement that can be obtained in Pediatric Dentistry.

Sophia was born in Kuwait in 1982. She is the daughter of Mohamed Hijjawi and Michelle Merriman. Sophia graduated from Canevin High School and later from the University of Pittsburgh. She graduated from St. Joseph's University in 2009 as an anesthesiology nurse. She is currently a CRNA nurse anesthetist at Holy Redeemer and Huntington Valley.

Michael and Sophia are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters, Adrianna and Ava.

# KOURSAROS

**Harry**
**1900-1990**

**Katherine (Kattou)**
**1908-1985**

Harry was born in Cyprus in 1900 and arrived at Ellis Island in 1920. As many others had done, he came to the United States to find work and help his family back in Cyprus. Harry worked in New York City for a short time and then came to Reading to join his brother, George, and his wife, Erma. He worked as a bus boy at the Crystal Restaurant and later decided to become a barber. Harry attended barber school and was soon working with George cutting hair. In the late 1920s, he opened his own barber shop at 8th and Cherry Streets.

In 1929, Harry returned to Lefkara, Cyprus, where he met and married his wife, Ekaterina Kattou. The couple came back to Reading in 1930, and in March 1931 had their first child, Nicholas, who died of pneumonia twelve days after his birth. In April 1933 their second son, Deomidis, was born, followed by a daughter, Mary, who arrived in January 1936. By this time, Harry had opened a new barber shop at 20 South 8th Street, which he operated until his retirement in 1969. The family had living quarters at the rear of the shop until they bought their home at 931 Franklin Street.

Harry was instrumental in many of the early projects of our Church community. Over the years, he was a member of various committees, including the Parish Council in 1934, 1949, and 1950. He served on the Election Committee and was called upon annually to run the elections for Parish Council membership and tally the votes. He was also a member of the GAPA.

During World War II, and after the children were both in school, Katherine went to work, first at Stickler's on South 9th Street and later at Oritsky's, where she worked as a hand sewer until her retirement after 29 years. While working there, she helped many other Greek immigrants secure jobs at Oritsky's. Katherine was a member of both the Ladies Philoptochos Society and GAPA. She passed away in January 1985.

Deomidis attended the Reading public schools, and after graduation from Reading High School attended Penn Military College in Chester, PA. He graduated and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. Deomidis was sent to Korea and received his commission as a First Lieutenant. After his tour of duty in Korea, he returned to work on his Master's Degree in International Relations at the University of Pennsylvania. He returned to Reading and taught Social Studies at Reading High School. While there, he met and married his wife, Carole Achenbach, in 1965. The couple had three children: Hari, John, and Victoria. Deomidis passed away in May 2007 at the age of 74.

# KOURSAROS

**Mary**
**1936-**

Mary, the daughter of Harry and Katherine (Kattou) Koursaros, was born in Reading in January 1936. She lived in downtown Reading with her parents and older brother Deomidis and continues to be a Reading resident. Mary attended the Reading public schools, graduating from Reading High School in 1953, after which she attended Albright College and earned a B.S. in Home Economics in 1957. She taught Home Economics for one year in the Reading School District and later attended classes at Kutztown State College to become eligible to teach children of all ages. Subsequently, she secured a teaching position in the Tulpehocken School District in Bernville. After 30 years of teaching, Mary retired in 1988.

A lifelong member of our parish, Mary was at one time involved in the Church choir. She has also been a member for many years of the Ladies Philoptochos Society and served as President of the former Daughters of Penelope chapter in Reading. She had a long affiliation with the local Olivets organization and was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mary currently enjoys participating in art classes through Berks Encore.

While Mary's brother, Deomidis, passed away in 2007, she maintains a warm and loving relationship with her nephews, Hari and John, and with her niece, Victoria.

# KOUSOULIDES

**Christos Efthemios**
**1909-1990**

**Xanthippe (Hagieleni)**
**1920-2013**

Chris was born in 1909, in Valva, Larnaca Province, Cyprus, to Efthemios and Xanthippe (Hagieleni) Kousoulides. After they and sister Maritsa died, brother Kyriakos left for Australia, Chris left little brother John with a maternal aunt and he worked his way across Europe for several years, boarding steerage in Marseilles, in 1934. He settled in Stroudsburg, PA until drafted in 1942. Trained as a paratrooper, he was kept stateside to interpret and train men who fought as resistance fighters in Greece.

Niki was born in 1920 in Reading, to Gus and Marianthi (Fotiou) Arnidis, in the back of her dad's barber shop. Her parents came from Istanbul and Mytilene. Despite having the highest IQ in 10th grade, Niki quit school to work at the Berkshire Knitting Mills to support the family during the Depression. Niki and Chris met at an Orioles Greek dance, marrying in 1945. They had one child, Cynthia, who married Frankie Petrakis.

After owning Pottstown's Boston Lunch, they operated The Bramcote Hotel for 34 years, adding a new kitchen and The Greenhouse Restaurant in 1977. Chris was a lifetime member of the Lions Club and AHEPA, and his rice pudding was well received at early bazaars. Niki was the 1st church organist, a lifetime member of Philoptochos and the Lioness Club, serving as President then Treasurer for 40 years.

Chris and Niki, avid church attendees, were benefactors of the present Church, early church iconography, Project Independence, the Iconotasis, Narthex wall icons, and the new Sunday School wing, passing into eternal life, in 1990 and 2013.

May their memories be eternal.

# KOUTALELIS

**Dimitrios**
**1934-2004**

**Evriklia (Marmarou)**
**1931-**

Dimitrios was born in Polichnitos, Lesbos, Greece in 1934 to Panayiotis and Maria Koutalelis. He attended school up to middle school and immigrated to the United States in 1973. He was a tailor by trade. He married Evriklia "Eva" in September 1973. He passed away in 2004.

Evriklia (Marmarou) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1931 to Paraskeva and Maria Marmarou. Her parents immigrated to the United States from Filia, Lesbos, Greece. She graduated from Reading High School. She retired from Gilbert Associates where she was a secretary.

Eva has been an active member of our Church since childhood. She faithfully attended Sunday School and Greek School. She was also a member of the church choir, where Choir Director George Baxewanis always referred to her as Evriklia rather than Eva. She is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos. She spends endless hours working on the serving line during our Church bazaar. She also is an integral part of the "outside" crew on baking days for both the bazaar and the Philoptochos spring bake sale. She helps take the bread and pastry off the trays when they are removed from the ovens and helps pack them away for storage.

# KOVRAS

**Esther**
**1922-**

Esther was born in Reading on September 8, 1922. She attended the Reading schools, and to her credit, graduated from Reading Senior High at a time when many of her peers had dropped out of school upon reaching their 16th birthday.

She was the daughter of Paraskeva and Maria (Vaporelli) Marmarou, both who immigrated to the United States from the island of Mytiline. Paraskeva arrived here in 1907, and Maria arrived here in 1912. They were married on January 22, 1917 and had five children.

Prior to her retirement, Esther had a busy and fulfilling career as a secretary for the 13th and Union Elementary School in the Reading School District for many years. She also served as a secretary for the Ladies Philoptochos Society when she was a member of St. Matthew's Church.

Esther is the mother of Maria Tomeo and the grandmother of Damon Tomeo, who practices dentistry in Oley, PA. Along with her sister, Eva Koutalelis, and her borther, Stratton Marmarou, she is an active member of the congregation and attends church faithfully. Esther also had two brothers, George and James, who are deceased.

# KRALLIS

**George**
**1891-1965**

**Maria (Arvanitelli)**
**1902-1981**

George Krallis, the son of Athanasios and Evdoxia, was born in Kimerian, Asia Minor in 1891; the first of eight children. In 1915, after the first holocaust of Asia Minor, he immigrated to America to avoid being drafted by the Turkish Army. At that time, Greece was at war with the Turks.

When he left for America, his heart was full of dreams and enthusiasm for he knew that this was a place where he could work and earn money to help support his four sisters, three brothers, and his mother (his father was deceased). The tragedy was that he never saw his family again because they were victims of the Turks during World War I.

George secured a job at Carpenter Steel which is where he worked until his retirement. In 1927, he returned to Greece (after gaining American Citizenship) and he then married Maria Arvanitelli who was born in the year 1902 in Moshonisi, Asia Minor, the daughter of Efstratios and Stella, refugees who lived in Mytilene. The couple then returned to the United States and made their home in Reading. They raised six sons: Emmanuel, Athanasios, Antonis, Panagiotis, Demetrios, and George. These sons produced eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

George and Maria were both strong supporters of the Greek Orthodox Church and proud of their heritage. George was a member of GAPA and AHEPA and Maria was one of the first members of Philoptochos. In spite of all the difficulties they were faced with, they raised a fine family and helped as much as they were able for the growth and progress of this community.

May their memory be eternal.

# KRALLIS

**Athanasios George**
**1930-**

**Joyce Elaine (Scheuring)**
**1936-**

Athanasios was born in Reading in 1930, the second of six sons of George and Maria Krallis. He graduated from Reading High School and went to serve his country during the Korean War. After his discharge, following in his father's footsteps, he became employed as a Steelworker at Carpenter Technology until his retirement.

Joyce (Scheuring) was born in Reading in 1936. She graduated from Reading High School. Joyce joined the Greek Orthodox Church after her marriage to Athanasios. Joyce was employed at Letisse for many years and recently retired from Walmart.

Together Athanasios and Joyce raised two children, Elaine Ruth, a graduate of Reading High School and John George, a graduate of Reading High School and Lock Haven University. John and his family reside in Chantilly, Virginia. Athanasios and Joyce have two granddaughters and one grandson.

# KRALLIS

**Antonis George**
**1933-**

**Maria "Marika" (Vougamalis)**
**1940-**

Antonis was born in Reading in 1933, the third of six sons of George and Maria Krallis. He graduated from Reading High School and went to serve his country during the Korean War. Following in his parents' footsteps, Antonis joined the Greek Orthodox Church as a young boy and also served as an altar boy. After his discharge, he became employed as a Steelworker at Carpenter Technology until his retirement. In 1959 he went to Greece to marry Marika in Kalloni, Lesvos.

Marika was born in 1940 in Kalloni, the oldest of four sisters. She graduated from Kaloni High School in Lesvos and came to the United States in November of 1959 after her marriage to Antonis. Marika, being born into a faithful Orthodox family, joined the Greek Orthodox Church upon her arrival in the United States. Marika also joined Philoptochos and is still an active member today along with currently serving as an active member of the choir. She is involved in all aspects of volunteering for the church including the bazaar and bake sale. Additionally, Marika was previously named "Mother of the Year" by the church. She is currently employed as a seamstress for Pollack Furs.

Together Antonis and Marika raised two sons. Nicholas Anthony was active in the church as an altar boy and also a member of GOYA. Today he is an active member of AHEPA. Nicholas graduated from Reading High School and Millersville University, and is currently employed by White Star Tours Travel Agency. George Anthony was active in the church and also a member of GOYA. George graduated from Reading High School and Lehigh University. He received his Masters degree from Penn State and his Doctorate from Lehigh University in 2000. He is currently employed by ERM and resides in Royersford, Pennsylvania.

# KRALLIS

**Demetrios George**
**1939-**

**Janice Marie (Newhard)**
**1952-**

Demetrios was born in Reading in 1939, the fifth of six sons of George and Maria Krallis. He graduated from Reading High School. After having several different jobs he finally found his niche in roller rink management and in 1973 moved to Wilkes-Barre to manage a roller skating rink, where he remained for 25 years. He met his wife Janice at a roller rink and in 1972 they were married.

Janice (Newhard) was born in 1952 in Hokendauqua, Lehigh County (now Whitehall). After graduating from Whitehall High School she became employed by Farr's Shoe Store in Allentown as a bookkeeper. Upon her marriage to Demetrios, she moved to Reading where she resided for about one year before moving with her husband to Wilkes-Barre to co-manage the roller skating rink.

After Demetrios' retirement in 1998, they decided to come back to Berks County to be near family. In 2000 they moved to Sinking Spring where they currently reside. Upon their return to Berks County, Janice joined the Greek Orthodox Church.

Since retiring Demetrios has found his second niche, cutting grass. Even though he is not a golfer, he currently works part time at Chapel Hill Golf Course "mowing the grass." Janice still works full time and is employed as a legal secretary for a Wyomissing law firm.

Demetrios and Janice both help with the baking at the church. Janice also is an active member of Philoptochos and volunteers at the church bazaar and bake sale.

# KRAMER

**Gerald**
**1928-**

**Molly (Rentos)**
**1931-**

Molly Kramer was born in Reading, PA in 1931. She is the daughter of the late George and Stavroula Rentos, who immigrated to the United States from Lemnos, Greece. She is a graduate of Reading High School and worked for many years at AT&T Technology.

Gerald I. Kramer was born in Reading, PA in 1928. Gerald and Molly married in 1953 and are the proud parents of two children. Their daughter, Cheryl, is a graduate of Kutztown University. She is married to Roland Zabrecchi; they have two daughters. Their son, Jon, is a graduate of Alvernia College. He is married to the former Donna Rowe; they have one son and one daughter. Molly and Gerald are also blessed with one great-grandchild.

Molly is an active member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She can often be found using her talents as one of the bakers as they prepare the pastries for our annual bazaars and bake sales.

# KRAMER

**Jon**
**1960-**

**Donna**
**1960-**

Jon was born in Reading, PA on November 24, 1960, the son of Molly and Gerald Kramer. Donna was born in Lancaster, PA on December 29, 1960.

Jon received an Associate Degree from Thaddeus Stevens School of Technology and a Masters Degree in Education from Temple University. He is presently employed at Stevens University as a Professor and is head of the Curriculum Review Committee.

Jon and Donna have two children: James, earned an MBA from Alvernia College and is employed by Pacific Architectural Engineering Associates in Washington, DC; Nicole graduated from Temple University with a Law Degree and is employed by a Philadelphia law firm.

# KRARAS

**Christ**
**1883-1956**

**Ypapanti (Contos)**
**1881-1960**

Christ was born and educated in Terpsithea, Nafpactos, Greece in 1883. In 1904, he married a hometown girl, Ypapanti, daughter of Elias and Eleni Contos (Kontokosta).

A year later he left the village for the "land of opportunity" – the United States – and went to the oil fields in Texas and Oklahoma where he sucessfully operated restaurants feeding the oil workers.

A few years later, he had saved enough money, sold his business and returned to Greece and his family, a process he repeated many times. He would come to the United States, work hard, save some money, and return to his family. During one of his returns home, around 1912, he fought in the Greek-Bulgarian War.

In the 1930s, he operated restaurants in Mississippi where he became active in the Masonic Order. He came to Reading in 1943 where he operated several restaurants, including the Penn Bar and Keystone Tavern.

Christ served on many important committees in Reading and also served as an officer in the local AHEPA Chapter.

Ypapanti stayed behind in the village and raised her family. Like in Nicholas Gage's novel, "Eleni", Ypapanti devoted her whole life to "her children". Christ and Ypapanti had six children: John, an active member of AHEPA and the Reading Church; Vasiliki, wife of Demetrios Mparos; Elias; Gust; Eleni, wife of George Triantis; and Maria.

Christ returned to Greece for the last time in 1953, and three years later, he passed away there.

May their memory be eternal.

# KRARAS

**John**
**1905-1980**

**Irene (Tsitselis)**
**1902-1970**

John was born in Terpsithea, Nafpactos, Greece in 1905, and received his primary education there. To attend higher schooling, he had to travel from his village to another mountain village, approximately a three-hour walk. He walked there Monday morning carrying his books and enough food for the week and would live in a rented room during the week and return home for the weekend. Thus, he graduated from what was then called scholarchio, roughly equivalent to today's tenth grade.

When he was 15, he was brought to the United States to live and work with his uncle, C.H. Contos, who at the time owned several large businesses in Reading. John worked in his uncle's various restaurants throughout the years and later operated several restaurants of his own, among them being the Famous Coney Island in the 1930s, and the Brothers Restaurant in the 1950s, until he went to Wildwood, NJ where he operated the Town House Restaurant on the Boardwalk until he retired.

In 1932 he met, and later married, Irene (Tsitselis), a relative of his uncle's wife. They had two children: Christ and Patsy (wife of Lee Snyder). They had six grandchildren, all living in the Malvern area.

John was very active in the AHEPA. He was a charter member of the local Chapter, and held many offices including that of President for several terms. He also served several terms as a member of the Parish Council and was Vice President of the Council.

Irene was born in the Village of Mesotopo on the beautiful island of Lesvos (Mytilene) and came to the United States in 1925. She was a distant relative of the Hollis Family, a member of which ws Dr. Milton Hollis, the founder of our Church, and his sister, Despina, who married C.H. Contos, John's uncle.

Irene was a very active member of the Philoptochos.

May their memory be eternal.

# KRARAS

**Gust**
**1921-**

**Stella (Dialectos)**
**1925-2011**

Gust was born in Terpsithea, Nafpactos, Greece in 1921. He immigrated to the United States in 1938, settling first in Nashville, TN where he worked while attending school and chanting in Holy Trinity Church. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. As a member of the OSS, he was sent to Greece to fight the Germans from the mountains of Greece. When he was discharged from the Army in 1945, he came to join his father and brother who were in business in Reading.

Gust married Stella (Dialectos) in 1946. Stella was born in Reading, PA in 1925 to Athanasios "Tom" and Angeliki (Kostomiris) Dialectos. Both of Stella's parents were from the Island of Lesvos. Stella and her four siblings were always close to the Church.

Gust's service to the Church began soon after he settled in Reading. He was asked to assist as a chanter, which he still continues today. He was first elected to the Parish Council in 1948 and has been serving as a member, secretary or President of the Council for most of the last 69 years. He has also chaired many important committees throughout the years, including The Annual Food Bazaar (which he initiated) for several years, the Church's Library Committee, the Stewardship Committee, and the Celebration Committee. He was also the Editor of the Commemorative Albums in 1970, 1975, 1989, the Testimonial for Father Tom and Gus Yatron in 1996, and the Consecration Album in 2001. Gust also chaired the Committee in 1987, which completely renovated the interior of our Church. He also was instrumental in arranging for the major Iconography project that beautifies our Church. Gust also chaired the Consecration Committee in 2001 and the Centennial Celebration Committee in 2014. For over forty years, Gust has also overseen the decoration of the Epitafio on Holy Friday and in recent years, has underwritten the expense of all the floral decorations of the Church for Easter and Christmas.

In 1990, Gust was vested with the title of the Archon Deputatos of the Ecumenical Patriarchate by Archbishop Iakovos. He is also a fulfilled member of the Leadership 100. In 1993, he was awarded the Medal of St. Paul by the Archdiocese, and the Archdiocese Laity Award. On May 11, 2002 he was given the distinction of being awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

Gust has also been a member of the Order of AHEPA for many years. He served as District Governor in the Fifth District in New Jersey. In 2010, he was an instrumental force in re-organizing the local AHEPA Chapter. On June 1, 2015, Gust was surprised at the 90th Anniversary Celebration of the local AHEPA Chapter when the Chapter was renamed Gust C. Kraras Chapter No. 61 in his honor.

Gust has also been a member of the Order of AHEPA for many years. He served as District Governor in the Fifth District in New Jersey. He is also a member of the Masonic Order. In 2010, he was an instrumental force in re-organizing the local AHEPA Chapter.

Stella spent many years assisting her husband in the family business in Wildwood, NJ. She also volunteered during the Annual Food Bazaars and Philoptochos events. She passed away in 2011.

Gust and Stella have three children who are all very active in Church: Christ is married to Ann (Baxewanis), Angel is married to Mauro Cammarano, and Patricia is married to Bernard Donahue. They have been blessed with six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

# KRARAS

**Christ G.**
**1947-**

**Ann (Baxewanis)**
**1947-**

Christ "Chris" was born on February 26, 1947 in Reading to Gust and Stella Kraras. His paternal grandparents and father were born in Terpsithea, Greece, and his maternal grandparents were natives of Lesbos, Greece. Chris graduated from Reading High School in 1965 and from Albright College in 1969. He received a Master's Degree in Education from Kutztown State College in 1972. After teaching Political Science for ten years in the Daniel Boone School District, he taught several courses at Reading Area Community College. He retired early from his teaching career to devote his entire time to his family businesses in both Wildwood, New Jersey and Reading. In addition to his involvement with numerous building contracting ventures, as well as many other business opportunities, Chris is currently President of White Star Tours, his family-owned group tour/travel business.

Following the lead of his father and grandfather, Chris has devoted most of his life to serving the Church. He was an Altar Boy, attended Greek School, and became a Sunday School Teacher and Sunday School Superintendent. He was a Junior GOYA advisor, GOYA basketball coach, and choir member. He has been Chair of the Church's Annual Greek Food Bazaar, Parish Council Member, and served as President in 1980 and 1981. He is one of the lifetime "kooks" in the Church kitchen. He took an active role in the Church's Long Range Planning Committee, and Co-Chaired the Building Committee of our Church renovation and construction project. He also was bestowed the honor of Archon by the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 1994, and is currently a member of the Leadership 100.

His volunteer service in the community has been quite notable over the years. He has served on the Boards of Alvernia University, Pennsylvania National Bank, Berks Arts Council, Berks County Visitors Bureau, Reading Berks Conference of Churches, Centro Hispano Daniel Torres, and Berks Encore, having served as Chairman on several of these Boards. He also sits on the Boards of Albright College, where he Chairs the Capital Campaign, the United Way, where he Chairs their Board of Directors, and is a Trustee of both the Reading Health System and Fulton Bank Boards. He is also a member of the Chandler Lodge #227 Masonic Order, and the Reading Chapter of AHEPA. Over the years he has been the recipient of several distinguished awards, such as: The Jacob Albright Alumni Award, Spirit of Scouting Award, Junior Achievement's Business Hall of Fame, Outstanding Philanthropist by Berks County's AFP, Eugene Shirk Community Builder Award, Berks Encore Community Award (with his wife, Ann), and the Sidney D. Kline, Jr. Award for Outstanding Community Service (with his wife, Ann).

Chris was married to the former Ann Baxewanis on December 29, 1968. Ann, the daughter of George and Mary Baxewanis, was born in Reading on April 19, 1947. Her maternal grandparents and her paternal grandmother were natives of Kos, Greece, while her paternal grandfather was born in Aretsou, Turkey. She is a 1965 graduate of Governor Mifflin High School, an alumnus of East Stroudsburg State College (1969), and received a Master's Degree in Education from Kutztown State College in 1972. She taught second and third grades at Governor Mifflin until the birth of their son in 1972.

After attending both Sunday School and Greek School as a child, Ann became a Church Organist. Besides being a Choir Member, she taught Sunday School and later served as Director of the Sunday School for 17 years. She also has been a Junior Choir Director, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Christmas Pageant Director, Member of the Building Fund Committee, the Growth and Spiritual Renewal Committee, and the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society Board, of which she served as President and Treasurer. She is also the Director of two Church Choirs: One that maintains the traditional Greek liturgical hymnology (formerly directed by her father for 63 years), and the other that uses predominately English lyrics set to Byzantine melody.

Ann also has participated in many community organizations outside of the Church: Good News Club teacher, Wilson School District volunteer, Board member of the Berks County Food Bank, Reading-Berks Conference of Churches, and the Berks County Chapter of the American Red Cross. She also served on the Board of Directors of United Way of Berks County and Co-Chaired the Annual Capital Campaign with her husband, Chris, in 2008. Ann has been a member of the Junior League of Reading since 1980, and became its President in 1994-1995.

Chris and Ann have two children and seven grandchildren. Their son, Dean, was born in 1972, and daughter, Marisa, followed in 1976. Dean married the former Jennifer Martens in 1999, and they have four children: twin daughters Mackenzie and Peyton born in 2001; Christopher, born 2006; and Delaney, born 2010. Marisa married Scott Hunsicker in 2003, and they have three sons: Tommy, born 2005, Christo, born 2006, and Gram, born 2010.

# KRARAS

**Constantine "Dean" Christ**
**1972-**

**Jennifer Lynn (Martens)**
**1973-**

Born on December 13, 1972, Dean is the son of Christ and Ann Kraras, grandson of Gust and Stella Kraras, and George and Mary Baxewanis. His Greek roots from his paternal grandparents and great-grandparents are of Terpsithea, Greece and Lesbos, Greece. His maternal great-grandparents were born in Kos, Greece and Aretsou (outside of Istanbul), Turkey. Dean is a 1991 Wilson High School graduate, and a 1995 graduate of Lehigh University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business and Economics. Dean currently has an integral role in his family-owned travel business of White Star Tours, and has also joined his father in a number of other business ventures.

Dean has always been an active member of our church parish. As a child, he served as an Altar Boy and attended Sunday School through his senior year in high school, was a GOYA member, and played GOYA basketball. He also received the Orthodox Youth Award as a high school graduate. As an adult, he has co-chaired the church's annual Greek Food Bazaar, annually co-chairs the Kraras Family Scholarship for high school seniors of our parish, and also has served as the Secretary of AHEPA from 2010 to present-day.

In addition to his church commitments, Dean is involved in many community organizations. A past graduate of the Leadership Berks course, he currently serves as a Board Member of the Van Reed Athletic Association, Berks Encore, and the Boy Scouts of America. He volunteers as a coach with Van Reed basketball and Liberty Youth Baseball, and is a member of the Spring Township Athletic Association, Greater Reading Economic Partners Marketing Committee, and the Olivets Golf Committee.

On December 4, 1999, Dean married Jennifer Martens, daughter of John "Jack" and Darlene Martens. Jennifer, born October 15, 1973, attended the Wilson School District with Dean since kindergarten, graduated in 1991 from Wilson High School, and received her college degree in 1999 from the University of Delaware, where she majored in geriatric care. She had been employed by Reading Elderly Housing as the geriatric social worker until their children were born in 2001.

After the birth of their twin girls, Jennifer helped to initiate and develop the church's Children's Library by using all the monetary gifts received at the girls' Christening to purchase most of the books and materials in the Library.

In addition to being an excellent homemaker and mother of four children, Jennifer has been a member of the Junior League of Reading, PA, Inc., in which she had served as a Board Member for many years, chaired a major fundraiser, and completed the Leadership Berks course. She also is a past Board Member of the Salvation Army, and volunteers at the Wilson Spring Ridge Elementary School.

Dean and Jennifer keep busy with their four children, who are faithful attendees of Sunday School and church: Mackenzie and Peyton, twin girls, age 13, 7th graders at Wilson West Middle School, are GOYA members, participate in the Senior Choir each Sunday, and help during the Greek Food Bazaar each year; Peyton also plays GOYA basketball. Christopher, age 8, a 2nd grade student at Wilson Spring Ridge Elementary School, serves as a church Altar boy, and Delaney, age 5, is a pre-kindergartener at Atonement Lutheran Church, Wyomissing.

# KRIEBEL

**Cory Raymond**
**1974-**

**Maria Kim (Shunk)**
**1982-**

Cory was born in Virginia in 1974 to Richard and Nancy Kriebel. He was a four-sport athlete in high school as well as a member of the National Honor Society and the Pennsylvania State Youth Government. He also refereed soccer. In the church's youth group, he was a camp counselor, camp lifeguard, and on the kitchen staff. He also went on mission trips to Mexico and the Dominican Republic. He was chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 2012.

Cory earned a BS in Psychology from Penn State University in 1997. He was a member of the PsyChi Honor Society and was a Nittany Lion Ambassador and an intramurals athletic supervisor. He was also on the PSU President Tailgate Staff. He is the owner of Kriebel & Miller Enterprises, Inc., DBA Sneaker Villa, Villagraphics, & Embroidery Design Direct. Cory is on the Alvernia University and Penn State University Berks Business Advisory Boards.

Maria Kim was born in Reading on August 3, 1982 to Kim and Elaine (McGowan) Shunk. At Antietam High School, Maria played three varsity sports, was on the traveling soccer teams, and was a member of the National Honor Society. She earned a BS in Kinesiology from Penn State University and a Masters Degree in Sports Management from Millersville University. She was a member of the PSU National Champion Soccer Team, was a referee and coach, and served as the Kinesiology Club Vice President and THON Chairperson. She was also a THON dancer and a Special Olympics aide.

At Sts. Constantine & Helen, she played basketball, served as GOYA President, and camp counselor at Camp Nazareth. Maria was also a District Oratorical Festival winner, a junior choir member, a moiroforoi, and Christmas Pageant participant. She attended Greek School and Sunday School.

Maria owned a sports performance business and is an Advocare Independent Distributor.

Cory and Maria were married in 2012 and have a son, Nikolaos, who was born in 2014.

# KUNKELMAN

**Gary**
**1948-**

**Kathy (Kontaxes)**
**1949-**

Gary was born January 28, 1948. He was raised and educated in Reading. Gary then graduated from Penn State with a BA in Journalism, then earned an MA in Communications from Temple, then went on to earn his MA and his PhD both in American Studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

Gary has been involved in the PSEA, NEA and the REA organizations.

Gary married Kathy (Kontaxes) who was born and raised in Reading. They have two children: Melissa C. and Mathew N.

Kathy and the entire Kontaxes Family, were extremely dedicated, very active Parish members and great assets to our beloved Church throughout the years serving in any capacity necessary.

Kathy's father Nicholas was the originator of the 1976 Financial Independence Drive and asked our parishioners to buy notes and use the proceeds to retire the Church's first mortgage which at that time was very high with a high rate of interest.

# LABE

**Gregory**
**1983-**

**Stephanie (Cammarano)**
**1982-**

Greg was born in 1983, to Jeffrey and Joanne (Fisher) Labe. He is a graduate of Wilson High School and has a Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State University. He also holds an Executive MBA from St. Joseph's University. He is a former Marine Scout Sniper, who served in four operational deployments during the war on terror. He worked as a private security contractor for the Emergency Response Team in Baghdad. Greg was also a member of the Vice President's protective detail as well as other key political figures while on contract in the Middle East.

Stephanie was born in Reading, in 1982, to Mauro and Angel (Kraras) Cammarano. She graduated from Wyomissing High School in 2000, and Gettysburg College in 2004. She has been employed at the family business, White Star Tours, since 2004. Stephanie has been involved in many Church activities throughout her life. She was an active member of the Sunday School and Goya. Today, she continues the Kraras Family tradition as she assists in preparing the Church for Good Friday Services.

Greg and Steph were married at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church on October 31, 2009.

# LAMBRIODES

**George**
**1924-1995**

**Irene (Hamilothoris)**
**1929-**

Irene (Hamilothoris) Lambriodes was born on September 17, 1929, in Tinos, Greece, an island in the Aegean Sea, to Achilleas and Penelope Hamilothoris. She was one of five children, the only girl along with her four brothers.

After completing high school in Greece, she studied nursing. She met her future husband, George Lambriodes, in Greece. They were married on April 24, 1952 in the Bahamas and the couple immigrated to the United States in 1952, settling in Hoboken, N.J.

George Lambriodes was born on March 15, 1924, in New York City, to Pantelis and Anastasia Lambriodes. His family went back to Greece in 1931 during the Great Depression, settling on the island of Andros. He returned to the U.S. after he was married.

George was a chef and eventually opened his own restaurant in 1961 in Union City, N.J. In 1967, George and Irene moved to Cherry Hill, N.J., where both continued working in the restaurant industry. Irene was a head chef for more than 40 years in various restaurants in N.J. and Philadelphia. She was a member of the Philoptochos and Senior Citizens organization at St. Thomas Greek Orthodox Church in Cherry Hill.

George and Irene have three adult children: Achilleas Lambriodes of Exeter Township, Anastasia (Lambriodes) Exadaktilos, and Penelope (Lambriodes) Pergantis of West Reading; and four grandchildren.

George Lambriodes died in December, 1995.

Irene moved to the Reading area from Cherry Hill, N.J., in 2005, purchasing a home in Exeter. She has helped with the Greek School and especially the Greek Food Bazaar at our church.

# LAMBRIODES

**Achilles "Charles"**
**1953-**

**Barbara (Banis)**
**1960-**

Achilles was born in Hoboken, NJ on April 29, 1953. He was raised and educated in New Jersey. Achilles went on to College studying Architectural Design.

Achilles married Barbara (Banis) who was born in Sao Paolo, Brazil. They have two children: George and Stephan.

Achilles was actively involved on the Parish Council as Vice President and President of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Trenton, NJ, until their move to Reading, PA.

Achilles, Barbara and their sons have moved to our community and are welcomed additions. They all have become very active parishioners in many of our Church's organizations and functions.

Achilles re-assembled his former Greek band from New Jersey, which has entertained our community on several occasions.

# LAMBROS

**Costas**
**1892-1965**

**Eleni (Ganikon)**
**1907-1980**

Costas, born 1892 on the island of Kos, was the son of Stephanos and Lyvia Lambros. His siblings included Louis, Stamati, Androniki Georgeadis, Toula Fournaris, and Thalia Tsakeris. After attending school, he immigrated to the United States in 1905 and worked as a candy maker in the old Hollis Candy Factory. With schooling in the tool and dye trade, he next obtained employment at the Berkshire Knitting Mills as a hosiery dyer, working until his retirement in 1958.

Wife, Eleni, born 1907 in Asia Minor, Turkey, was the daughter of John and Olympia Ganikon. She had 6 siblings, including a brother, Gregory, and a sister, Fotika. Eleni immigrated to the United States when danger arose during the Asia Minor Holocaust, then obtained work at the Berkshire Knitting Mills. The couple married in 1924 and had two children: Stephanos, now deceased, married the former Deborah Fournaris, of Reading; Olympia, married to Ronald Kauffman, lives in Lancaster. Eleni was also involved in the Philoptochos. She passed away in 1980.

While Eleni "Helen" concentrated on raising their children and taking care of their home on Pearl Street, Costa's devotion to the Reading church and Greek community was evident. Beginning in 1907, a traveling Priest performed the first Divine Liturgy in Costa's first home on Lemon Street. He became one of the true leaders of the young church and the growing parish of Greek-Americans.

Costa served on every committee and council of the Church over the years, and his nineteen years as a Parish Council member became one of the longest tenures in Church history at that time. He was also very active in GAPA and held various local and district offices during his forty year membership. Costa is fondly remembered for gatherings in his home when everyone would drink ouzo while he played his mandolin. He passed into eternal life in 1965.

# LAMBROS

**Stephanos**
**1925-1985**

**Deborah (Fournaris)**
**1929-**

Steve was born in 1925 in Reading to Costas and Eleni (Ganikon) Lambros, with roots in Kos and Asia Minor/Turkey. A sister, Olympia Kauffman, resides in Lancaster. After Reading High School, he attended Philadelphia Trade School. Steve served in the WW II Pacific Naval Theater as 1st gunner on LST #555 and had fond memories of the San Diego Naval Base. He then became a lifelong mail carrier for the US Postal Department.

Steve was an Altar boy and was active in many church projects. He served as Secretary on the Parish Council and was a Building Committee member for the present church edifice. He was a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers, the Greek-American Legion, AHEPA, GAPA, and was a proud member of the illustrious Poker Club, comprised of family members and close friends. He passed away in 1985.

Wife Deborah was born in 1929 in Hyannis, Mass., to Marigo (Pazakis) and Evimeros Fournaris, with roots in Kos. Deborah attended Barnstable and Reading High Schools. Upon the marriage of her sister Sadie, she, her siblings, and widowed mother moved to 4th Street in Reading, then lived on Pearl Street, near the Lambros family. Her siblings include Sadie Petrakis, Nicholas, and Vasiliki Zervanos, all deceased, and sister Christine Georgeadis and brother Ross, of Reading. Deborah was a choir and Philoptochos member.

She worked for Met Ed, then upon marrying Steve, the couple had 3 sons – Dean and Evan, Kutztown graduates residing in Reading, and James, a Wyomissing High School graduate who passed away in 1999. Deborah remains a loyal parishioner, continues in a sales career at Sears, and maintains a very active life with her extended family.

Steve was the son of Costas Lambros, the Patriarch of the Lambros family and one of the founding fathers, instrumental in creating our Church here in Reading. Steve's and Deborah's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren continue a tradition of church involvement in honor of this respected forefather.

# LAMBROS

**Constantine S.**
**1952-**

**Katherine (Maule)**
**1957-**

Constantine, "Dean," was born in 1952 in Reading to Stephen and Deborah (Fournaris) Lambros, with great-grandparental roots in Kos and Asia minor, Turkey. He has two brothers – Evan, residing in Reading, and James, now deceased. Dean attended Sunday School, was in choir, and participated in Goya. He graduated from Wyomissing High School, then earned a Kutztown University BS degree and a Masters from Texas University, both in Special Education.

In high school he played football; in college he was involved in music, music production, and was a member of a band. After living in Texas for several years, Dean and his wife returned to Reading. He taught the teen Sunday School class and is presently employed as a Reading High School District Special Education teacher.

Wife Katherine, "Kaye," was born in 1957 in Michigan, to Walter and Elnora Maule. Kay and Dean married in 1979. Kaye was a dental assistant and was most recently employed as executive assistant to the owner of Bachman Foods. The couple have two sons. Stephen, now married and living in Virginia, is a graduate of Wyomissing High School, participated in football and track, attended Dickenson College, then earned an International Business degree at George Mason University. A member of the National Guard, he is employed as an Arlington, VA police force special investigator, and serves on the SWAT team. He and wife, Carmen, have one son, Elijah.

Younger son, Aaron, graduated from Wyomissing High School, where he played football, and received a Penn State BA degree in Psychology, awarded posthumously. Aaron passed away in 2006. Both brothers were Goyans and attended Sunday School.

Dean and Kaye are members of our parish and reside in Wyomissing. Dean is the grandson of Costas Lambros, one of the founding fathers of our Church, here in Reading.

# LAMBROS

**Evan**
**1954-**

**Mim (Mogel)**
**1953-**

Evan S. Lambros was born in 1954, to Stephen and Deborah (Fournaris) Lambros, in Reading, with roots in Kos. After Wyomissing HS, he earned a Social Work degree (Kutztown University), was a restaurant owner and is now a Johnson & Johnson technician. He served on the Church Board, advised GOYA, is on the Social and Bazaar Committees, is an AHEPAN, and serves on the Kitchen Crew.

Wife, Mim, daughter of Howard and Shirley (Matz) Mogel, was born in 1953, in Reading. Chrismated in 1981, her Reading roots go back 8 generations. After high school and college, she began a career at St. Joseph's Medical Center. She is now Director of Supply Chain and Operations Manager for St. Joseph Medical Center and Berks Medical Equipment, serves on the church Social Committee and chairs the bazaar Agora Room.

The couple is also active in the Berks County Scholarship Organization. They have 2 children – Staci Marie Futrick and Nicholas, husband of the former Felicia Kollintzas, and 2 grandchildren – Carly and Courtney.

Evan and Mim were Sponsors during our Church Anniversary Celebration and Pillars for the Gala Weekend. Evan's grandfather, Costas Lambros, was a founding church father, instrumental in the first church built in Reading. This close-knit family carries on Costas's tradition by being active attendees and volunteers in our parish.

# LAMBROS

**Nicholas Ross**
**1983-**

**Felicia (Kollintza)**
**1987-**

Nicholas was born in 1983 in Reading, to Mim and Evan Lambros, with great-grandparental roots in Kos and Asia Minor, Turkey. After Wilson High School, he received an Albright BS in Biology and played basketball, achieving the most 3 pointers in a single game. Nick traveled abroad to Peru and the Amazon River to study flora and fauna. He next received a Drexel BS in Nursing, after which he earned a Masters Degree in Anesthesiology, with honors from St Joseph's University and Nazareth School of Anesthesia.

Nick was an altar boy captain, Goya VP, played basketball, attended Sunday School, and earned the Orthodox Youth Award. He is a Penn State Hershey Medical Center board certified anesthetist, with Lehigh Valley Hospital privileges, a member of the American and PA Associations of Nurse Anesthetists, and department social chair. He is an Ahepan, cooking crew member, and is pursuing a Penn State doctorate.

Wife Felicia was born in 1987 in Reading, to Philip and Callie Kollintza, with roots in Vlaherna, Tripoli, Peloponnisos and Kambos, Amaliada. After grade school in Athens, she was an Exeter High School honor roll graduate, Spanish Club member and VP of GOYA. She earned an Alvernia BA in Psychology and Spanish, was Dance Team Captain and participated in Work Study.

Presently, Felicia is a dance instructor for Kefi! She and Nicholas were married in June, 2014. A National Honor Society member, she is currently working on a Masters of Arts in Community Counseling, her Licensure – to become a Licensed Professional Counselor, is interning at Reading Hospital Center for Mental Health, practicing Partial Program Therapy and is a member of the American Counseling Association.

The couple resides in Manheim, remain parish members, and spend quality time in Reading with their families. The couple looks forward to many years of church participation, as their family grows!

# LAMBROS

**James S.**
**1960-1999**

James was born in 1960 in Reading, PA to Stephen and Deborah (Fournaris) Lambros, with great-grandparental roots in Kos and Asia Minor, Turkey. James, the youngest sibling, has two brothers and sister-in-laws – Evan S. and Mim Lambros, and Dean S. and Katherine Lambros, all living in Reading. He was the beloved godson of Frank and Cynthia Petrakis and ring bearer at the couple's wedding in 1970. James passed into eternal life in 1999.

Jimmy graduated from Wyomissing High School, where he was a member of the baseball team and the Chess Club. He attended Sunday School, was an altar boy and captain, and was a member of GOYA, serving as Secretary. An ardent coin, stamp, and old cars collector, he was a member of the National Rifle Association, the Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society, and loved swimming as a past-time.

James was employed by Arrow International, where he received numerous professional certificates of achievement in graphics. After developing a passion for the stock market and investments, with his knowledge and a true commitment to save money, he developed a strong, diversified portfolio and thoroughly enjoyed his financial discussions with his advisor, cousin Alex Zervanos.

Jimmy will be remembered for his gentle nature and family commitment. Upon the death of his father, he became a very involved, ardent supporter of his mother, Deborah, and spent many happy hours with her and his extended family.

James was the loving grandson of Costas (and Eleni) Lambros, one of our Church's early founding fathers, and Jimmy exhibited many of Costa's enduring traits – the most evident being generosity, love of God and family, sincerity, and a wonderful sense of humor! May his memory be eternal.

# LAWRENCE

**Shane**
**1965-**

**Anastasia (Koukoltsios)**
**1965-**

Anastasia Lawrence was born in Phoenixville, PA in 1965 to John and Harriet (Calimeres) Koukoltsios. Her father was from Kozani, Greece and her mother arrived in the United States from Levithi, Greece. She was raised in the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Her father, John, was a 50-year AHEPA member until his death in 2014.

Dr. Shane Lawrence was born in Wilkes-Barre, PA in 1965. His parents, Michael Birckbichler, who is deceased, and Bobbi Birckbichler, are from Collegeville, PA.

Anastasia and Shane attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science, graduating in 1988 with pharmacy degrees. Later, Shane received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Creighton University. He is currently the Director of Clinical Pharmacy Services for Phoebe Services Pharmacy, in Allentown, PA. Anastasia received her Masters in Education degree from Alvernia College. Her current title is Pharmacy Business Development and Performance Assurance for Phoebe Services Pharmacy in Allentown.

Shane and Anastasia are the proud parents of Cassandra, a graduate of Temple University and currently finishing her 2nd year of Medical School at Jefferson Medical College. Their son, Christopher, is at Drexel University, majoring in Information Systems.

# LECATSAS

**Spyros**
**1886-1978**

**Terpsithea (Karagianni)**
**1888-1948**

Spyros was born on the Island of Mytilene in 1886 to Theodoros and Eleni Lecatsas. He was one of five children in the family and thus began his journey to becoming the patriarch of the Lecatsas Family in America as we know it today. His siblings were Caliope, Marianthi and Diamanto who immigrated to America, and Sotiri who remained in Greece.

In 1909, Spiro married the former Terpsithea Karagianni who was born in 1888 in Mytilene. They started a family which would eventually grow to six children. With the first two infant children, Stellios, born July 9, 1912, and Taxiarhia "Dorothy" Kreisher, born March 23, 1914, they left Greece for the U.S.A. and arrived at Ellis Island, NY on October 5, 1915. Posted above are their passenger records from Ellis Island, with minor age and spelling discrepancies. They proceeded to Reading, PA where they began their new life in a new land. Here the family expanded to include Theodore (1916-1989), Angel Hess (1918-2013), Mary Schwambach (1917-2011), and Marianthi "Marion" (1919-1922). Five of the children married and raised their families in the Reading area, while the sixth child, Marianthi, passed away in 1922 at the age of three. Stellios passed away in 1986 and Dorothy passed away in 2015.

Spyros was a shoemaker by trade, but he also operated a coffee house. In those days, only a few of the Greeks were able to communicate in English and mingle with American society; the coffee house became a gathering place where the men would meet to exchange information, socialize, and keep up with the news from their homeland. Those who could read would read the newspapers to the others and read the letters that came from their relatives back home. Thus, Spyros provided a very important service to those early Greek immigrants at his coffee house. Some of those that gathered at the coffee house decided to form a theatrical group to put on plays to provide some recreation and culture for their compatriots; they did this for years and Spyros was an active member of the group. Spyros was also an active member of GAPA, which was formed in the early 1920s.

Terpsithea had learned the basics of dressmaking, as all young Greek girls did at the time, and used her training to work as a dressmaker for awhile. When there wasn't enough dressmaking work, she got a job at Ludens where she worked for many years.

Both Spyros and Terpsithea became American citizens; they were very proud of their American citizenship as well as their Greek heritage. May their memory be eternal.

# LECATSAS

**Stellios**
**1912-1986**

**Molly (Karish)**
**1911-1997**

Stellios was born on the Island of Mitilini on July 9, 1912 to Spiro and Terpsithea (Karagianni) Lecatsas. He and his sister Taxiarhia came to the U.S.A. with their parents on October 5, 1915. They arrived in Reading, PA where Stellios attended school. He worked in the Berkshire Knitting Mills where he met his future wife, Molly Karish. Later, he became a barber, a trade he practiced well into his senior years.

Molly (Karish) came to Reading from Biwabik, Minnesota. Because there wasn't much work in her hometown, a family friend and her brother had come to work at the Berkshire Knitting Mills where later, Molly also came to work.

In November, 1930, Stellios married the former Molly Karish and they had two children, Spiro and Patricia "Patsy"; both married and raised families in Reading. In 1956, Spiro married the former Marie Knoll and they had two children, Steve and Chris. Patsy married Sam Zampelli.

Stellios served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II. After the war, he was active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) where he served in several offices, including that of Post Commander. Molly was active in the VFW Ladies Auxiliary where she served in many important positions.

In 1981, Stellios' grandson, Steve, married the former Joyce Tripolitis and proceeded to raise their two children, Stephanie and Steve. In 1990, Chris began raising his two children, Nicole and Nicholas.

From the earliest generation to the present one, all have been active in the growth and well-being of our beloved Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and the Greek Community at large. It is with this thought in mind that our family extends their congratulations and best wishes for our Church's continued preservation.

Stellios died in 1986 and Molly died in 1997. May their memory be eternal.

# LECATSAS

**Spiro**
**1935-2007**

**Marie (Knoll)**
**1934-**

Spiro was born and educated in Reading. After graduating from Reading High School, he attended Wyomissing Polytechnic Institute, Industrial Management Institute, Albright College and the Rochester Institute of Technology.

He worked at Western Electric, a subsidiary of AT&T as an engineer for 25 years. After retiring from AT&T in 1985 he owned his own Semi-Conductor manufacturing business and was a Semiconductor Industry Consultant.

Spiro served in the U.S. Army from 1952 to 1955 and spent some of that time in Germany. While overseas, he began corresponding with "a girl back home" and upon his return to Reading, met her and in September, 1956 they were married.

Marie (Knoll) was born and educated in Reading and worked as a dental assistant, floral arranger and then became a full-time housewife when the children started coming along and was devoted to the raising of her two sons.

Marie was a tireless worker for the Church and in any and all programs, working alongside her husband and children for the progress of the Church.

Spiro has served in the Parish Council in many capacities over the years: as a member of the Parish Council the entire decade of 1971 to 1979, as Financial Secretary 1971-1974 and as President in 1975 and 1978. In 1973 he was Chairman of the Greek Festival which netted a large sum of money for those days. He was Chairman of the Bazaar Committee several times, providing the leadership necessary for success.

Spiro is one of those few individuals who accomplish a lot without raising his voice. During his term as President of the Parish Council, additional ground was purchased adjacent to the Church for the expansion of the parking lot and future needs of the Community. Ironically in 1999/2000 Spiro then served as the Chairman of the Building Fund Raising Committee for the new Building construction project on the land purchased during his Council Presidency in the 1970s. Spiro was also a member of the Order of AHEPA, the VFW, Semi-Con and Sema-Tech organizations.

Spiro and Marie have two sons: Steve and Chris, who have been working in the Church since they were able to walk it seems.

# LECATSAS

**Steve**
**1958-**

**Joyce (Tripolitis)**
**1959-**

Steve was born and educated in Reading. After graduating Reading High School, he continued his education becoming a certified Tool & Dye maker. A few years later he became a partner with his brother Chris in the restaurant business. Concurrently, while in the restaurant business, Steve attended Alvernia University, graduating with honors and his Business degree. Steve then persued a Sales and Operations Management Career, which he successfully continues today, after 30 years with Modern Group LTD serving many management roles over the years.

Having shared the same Sunday school room since childhood, Steve and his future wife Joyce were not meant to meet until years later at a Greek Dance, shortly after married June 28, 1981.

Joyce Tripolitis, also born and educated in Reading. After Graduating Wilson High School, Joyce chose a Nursing career as a Registered Nurse. Joyce began her Nursing career at Community General Hospital, then moving onto private duty nursing.

Joyce then spent the last 25 years in long term care in nursing administration. She has held many management positions including, Director of Nursing, RNAC and Quality Assurance. Joyce successfully continues today at Garden Spot Village in these duties as well as a Long Term Care Nursing Consultant with LW Consulting in Harrisburg.

Steve started as a young Altar boy at the first services of our new Church and also helped wherever he was needed, from bussing tables at the first Bazaar in 1971, later joining the Parish Council. Serving in many capacities over his 30 years of Parish Council service between 1981 and 2011: As a Parish Council Member, Assistant Treasurer, Vice President and two terms as Council President. Steve was the Treasurer of the Special Renovations of the Church in 1989, and for the Diamond Jubilee celebration, served as Assistant Chairman with his Dad Spiro who was Chairman of the 2000 Building Fund Raising Committee for the expansion of our Church's new Sunday School rooms and Social Hall. Steve also was the Annual Greek Food Bazaar Chairman from 1999 to 2010, served on the Special Consecration committee in 2000-2001 and served on the Centennial Celebration Committee in 2014.

Joyce, also an active Parish member, including teaching Sunday school for 10 years, an active GOYA Advisor for many years, an active Philoptochos Society member, Chairperson for the Pre Sales of Annual Bake sale and helped her husband Steve side by side in every Annual Greek Food Bazaar since they married.

Steve & Joyce have a daughter Stephanie and a son Steve, Jr. who were also very active growing up in the Church. Both attending and graduating from Sunday school with perfect attendance for many years, active participants in the GOYA, Steve served in the Altar for many years, as well as both active many years with the Greek Food Bazar, working alongside of their Papou Spiro, Yia Yia Marie, Mom Joyce & Dad Steve for the Lord and the success of the Church.

# LECATSAS-ROWE

**Stephanie**
**1983-**

Born February 23, 1983, Stephanie was raised and educated in Reading. She graduated from Wilson High School.

Stephanie was very active growing up in the Church, attending Sunday school for twelve years and graduating with perfect attendance for most of those years. Stephanie participated in all the Christmas pageants during her time in Sunday School and served as a Mirophori at Easter many years. Holding various offices as an active member of GOYA from Historian to President, Stephanie participated in G.O.Y.A. throughout all of Junior High School and High School. Playing GOYA basketball under the tutelage of "Coach O" Ernie Orphanos, was also a part of the G.O.Y.A. experience. Stephanie and her brother were both active many years with the Greek Food Bazar, working alongside their Papou Spiro and Yiayia Marie, Mom, Joyce, and Dad, Steve for the Lord and the success of the Church.

After graduating from Wilson High School, Stephanie graduated from Bloomsburg University with an undergraduate degree in Psychology, and then with honors from West Chester University graduating with a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology.

Stephanie's practice as a clinician has ranged all levels of care from outpatient therapy to inpatient treatment including being a part of a three-person team for a local agency to create a Community Residential Rehabilitation program. After a few years as a Residential Treatment Facility clinician at the Children's Home of Reading, Stephanie was offered a Clinical Supervisor position at KidsPeace's Partial Hospitalization Program where she continues to practice clinically, but also manages staff in three departments: Clinical Therapists, Intake Coordinators and Care Specialists.

# LECATSAS

**Steve, Jr.**
**1984-**

Steve, Jr. was born on February 27th, 1984, to Steve, Sr. and Joyce Lecatsas, nee Tripolitis. Born and raised in Sinking Spring, he attended school in the Wilson school district until graduating from Wilson High School in 2002. After graduating high school, he attended Lehigh Valley College where he obtained his business degree specialized in Hospitality Management. From there, his hospitality career launched and he has held positions managing operations and sales in both restaurants and hotels in Las Vegas, Nevada, Philadelphia & Reading, PA. He has also been recruited by corporate office to launch new restaurants for the national steakhouse chain, Texas Roadhouse, and also a new hotel opening within the Hyatt brand. He is also an entrepreneur and spends his spare time writing and running his own business from home.

Steve was very active growing up in the church, attending Sunday school for twelve years and graduating with perfect attendance for most of those years. He was also very active in Greek school; Goya for many years, holding various offices and served as an altar boy until graduating Sunday school. He and his sister joined a group of fellow Greek Orthodox Christians from across the country and served as missionaries in Tijuana Mexico, during which time they spent building a house for a homeless family and also spent time with children at an Orthodox Orphanage. Steve was also very active in the Greek Food Bazaar since the age of 6 – as soon as he grew enough to see over the grill, his first job was to help his aunt, Chris (Petrakes) Shaeffer, flip pitas on the flattop grill used to make gyros. He enjoyed many, many years working the Greek Food Bazaar alongside his sister, parents, and grandparents. Steve has always been very proud to have been able to follow in the footsteps of his parents, Joyce & Steve Lecatsas and his grandparents, Damianos & Irene Tripolitis and Spiro & Marie Lecatsas, all of whom instilled in him the importance of family and serving the Church from a very young age.

# LECATSAS

**Chris**
**1962-**

**Michelle (Bakker)**
**1973-**

Chris and Michelle (Bakker) celebrated their marriage on Virginia Beach, August 13th 2005. Chris had two young children, Nicole Leann and Nicholas Anthony who already formed a loving bond with Michelle as they became a new family ready to embark on life's journey.

Michelle graduated from Millersville University, pursuing a career teaching her passion of music to young children, which eventually lead to the introduction of Nicole's music teacher, Miss Bakker, soon to be Mrs. Lecatsas.

Chris had chosen a career in the food service industry owning and operating his establishments spanning more than 25 years while crafting other skills pursuant throughout today.

Proud grandparents Klaas and Judy Bakker, Spiro and Marie Lecatsas enjoyed a blessing of time to encourage and inspire their grandchildren in their most impressionable years.

The family continues a well-rounded interest in the arts of music, literature and photography while the children also excelled in scholastic performance and sports activities.

We continue our pilgrimage exploring our faith, grateful for our freedoms and liberties, hopefully sending forth a new generation steeped in morals, rich in history and proud of our combined families' legacy. God Bless the sanctity of all families.

# LOUNTZIS

**John**
**1921-2004**

**Alexandra**
**1926-2012**

John Lountzis was born in Boustry, Greece in 1921. He was educated in Greece and immigrated to the United States in 1951 where he settled in Reading. He was involved in the restaurant business and worked as a mixologist at Nick's Chat-a-While Inn. Alexandra was born and educated in Katouna, Greece. She knew John from childhood so in 1955 she came to Reading and they were married.

Mr. and Mrs. Lountzis had five children: Christine, Mary, Elaine, Paul and John and eleven grandchildren and one great grandchild. Even though Alexandra was very busy raising her large family and holding a full time job as a sewing machine operator, she always managed to donate her time and effort to the Lord and our Church as a priority. She was especially known in the community during our annual Greek Food Bazaar and Bake sale when she would devote countless hours preparing her famous Greek pastries.

The first few Bazaars and Bake Sales, beginning in 1970, Alexandra would make all her famous Greek Pastries from her home oven, one pan at a time.

Mr. Lountzis was an active member of the Reading William Penn Chapter 61 AHEPA and Alexandra was an active member of the Ladies Philoptochos Society for many years.

# LOUNTZIS

**Paul**
**1960-**

**Kelly (Jones)**
**1961-**

Paul was born and educated in Reading. He is the son of John and Alexandra Lountzis, a very devoted family, active for many years in many Church activities.

Paul is a graduate of Albright College with a B.S. degree in Finance and Marketing. Paul was employed for 12 years with two New York City based investment firms, Royce & Associates and Ruane, Cunniff & Goldfarb before starting his own firm, Lountzis Asset Management, LLC, where he is President.

Paul's wife Kelly (Jones) was born and educated in Reading. Kelly worked as a secretary in Juvenile Probation and Domestic Relations at the Berks County Courthouse for over a decade before becoming a full time mother.

Kelly and Paul were married on July 28, 1985 at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They have four children: Zachary, Tyler, Lauren and Ryan.

# LOUNTZIS

**John J.**
**1964-**

**Sharon A. (Shanebrook)**
**1968-**

John Lountzis was born on October 2, 1964 in Reading, PA to John and Alexandra (Kaligas) Lountzis. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1982 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Metallurgical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1986. He is currently a co-owner of VPM Surgical, located in Mohnton, PA.

Sharon was born on June 29, 1968 in Hanover, PA. She graduated from Trinity High School, Camp Hill in 1986. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in the Science of Nursing from Bloomsburg University in 1990. She is a nurse for the Exeter Township School District.

John and Sharon were married June 15, 1991 in Reading, PA.

John is a member of the Reading Chapter of AHEPA. Sharon is a member of Philoptochos. She has served as a Sunday School teacher, where she was instrumental in forming the Beginnings Class. She was also a Co-Advisor of GOYA.

The couple resides in Exeter with their sons, Andrew, 19, a student at North Carolina State University, Alexander, 17, a student at Exeter Township Senior High School, and Nicholas, 11, a student at Reiffton Intermediate School. Andrew is studying engineering at NC State. He was a member and past president of GOYA and an acolyte. Alex has served as Treasurer and Vice President of GOYA and is currently the President of GOYA. He is also a Kefi dancer and acolyte. Nick is a Kefi dancer and acolyte.

# MACARONIS

**Nicholas**
**1921-1997**

**Artemis (Skias)**
**1925-1990**

Nicholas M. Macaronis was born on January 22, 1921, in Youngstown, Ohio, to Michael and Sevasti (Mahinis) Makarounas. The family included another son, Michael, and a daughter, Norma. Nick and his parents returned to Greece in 1924. He attended high school on the island of Kalymnos, and returned to the United States in 1938.

Artemis S. Skias was born in Reading on May 15, 1925, to Peter and Penelope Skias.

Nick served in the United States Army during World War II. While stationed in Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, he visited Reading, where he met his future wife, Artemis. Nick and Artemis were married on June 6, 1943.

Settling in Reading, Nick entered the dry cleaning business in 1946, eventually owning Superior Dry Cleaners and Tailors. He later started a travel agency, Macaronis Tours Inc., specializing in airline trips to Greece.

Nick and Artemis raised three sons, Michael (a Reading Police Officer who passed away), Peter, age 67, and Phillip, age 62.

Nick took an active part in the Greek community as soon as he settled in Reading. He was a member of the GAPA and served as its President in 1947. He was elected to the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in 1948. He served on the council for a number of years and held the office of Financial Secretary, and later was elected President in 1951. Nick was also active in the AHEPA and other civic organizations.

Nick passed away on April 4, 1997. Artemis passed away on February 20, 1990.

# MACARONIS

**Michael N.**
**1944-1998**

Michael was born April 3, 1944 in Youngstown, Ohio. He was the son of Nicholas and Artemes Macaronis. Michael graduated from Governor Mifflin High School in 1962 and attended Kutztown University for one year. His grandparents and parents immigrated to the United States from Kalymnos and Mytilene. Michael was a city of Reading policeman for twenty-five years passing away one month before his retirement in 1998.

Michael grew up attending Sunday school at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. He also attended Greek school and was an active member of GOYA. Michael served as an altar boy.

Michael was the proud father of a daughter, Lisa.

May his memory be eternal.

# MACARONIS

**Peter N.**
**1947-**

**Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" (Yahner Hain)**
**1947-**

Peter N. Macaronis was born on March 11, 1947, in Reading, PA to Nicholas and Artemis (Skias) Macaronis. His parents and grandparents were from Kalymnos and Mytilene in Greece. Peter graduated from Reading High School.

Betsy was born on April 29, 1947, in Reading, PA to Thomas and Marie Yahner. She graduated from Reading High School.

Peter and Betsy were married on September 23, 1984. Peter has a son, Nicholas. Betsy's children are John Hain and Cindy Welch.

Peter was in business with his father for many years, operating a travel agency. After retirement, Peter and Betsy moved to Orlando, FL.

# MACARONIS

**Philip**
**1952-**

**Kathleen (Zuber)**
**1947-**

Born in Reading to Nicholas Macaronis and his wife, Artemis, Philip is the youngest of three sons. His older brother, Michael, is deceased; Peter is his surviving sibling. Phil is the paternal grandson of Mike and Sevasti Makarounas who were born in Kalymnos, Greece. His maternal grandparents are Peter and Penelope Skias. Peter was born in Turkey; Penelope was born in Mytilene.

Phil became actively involved with the church when he was a young boy. He served as an altar boy, had excellent attendance in Sunday school and sang in the choir. Phil understood and spoke Greek at home; he learned to read and write the language when he was a student in Greek school. He continued to be active by having served on the church board. To honor his deceased mother and father, Phil started donating carnations in 1990 to be given in church to every lady on Mother's Day and every man on Father's Day.

After he graduated from high school, Phil went to Kutztown State College, where he earned his Bachelor of Science and Master's degrees in education. He taught Social Studies at Conrad Weiser High School and at Daniel Boone. Phil also worked for the family businesses, Superior Dry Cleaners and Macaronis Tours. Phil currently works as a realtor for RE/MAX.

In college, Phil met his future wife, Kathy, who was studying to become a teacher. Kathy was chrismated in Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. She has a Master's degree in education, and taught at Strausstown Elementary School. Phil and Kathy are the parents of a son, Michael, who graduated from St. Joseph's University. He is the Treasury Supervisor at Vanguard. Michael is married to Valerie (Quire), who is a teacher in the Conrad Weiser Area School District. They are the parents of a young son, James. Phil and Kathy are very happy to be a Pappou and Yiayia!

Phil is a past president of the Shillington Rotary Club (1981-1982), a member of the Isaac Hiester Lodge 660 Free and Accepted Masons, The Scottish Rite, and Valley of Reading Shriners.

# MACARONIS

**Michael Philip**
**1983-**

**Valerie Elizabeth (Quire)**
**1982-**

Michael was born February, 1983 in Reading, Pennsylvania. He is the son of Philip and Kathleen Macaronis. Michael graduated from Saint Joseph's University with honors in 2005 with a degree in Finance and Economics. He has the Certified Financial Planner designation. Michael works in the Finance Department at Vanguard Marketing Corporation. His grandparents emmigrated from Kalymnos and Mytilene. He married Valerie (Quire) on August 26, 2007.

Valerie was born October, 1982 in Reading, Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of Tyrone and Diane Quire. Valerie graduated from Kutztown University with honors in 2005 with a degree in Anthropology and Professional Writing. She also graduated from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom in 2008 with a Masters in Historic Preservation. She works as a History teacher at Conrad Weiser School District and as a Docent at the Reading Museum.

Michael is an active member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. He was an altar boy and attended Sunday school in his early years. He has served as a Sunday school teacher since 2010. He volunteered at Opportunity House, serving dinner with Philoptochos members. Michael is a member of AHEPA William Penn Chapter 61. He is a member of the Ernie Orphanos scholarship golf tournament committee.

Michael and Valerie are the proud parents of James Constantine, who was born in December 2012.

# MAKAROUNAS

**Michael**
**1894-1986**

**Sevasti (Mahinis)**
**1895-1984**

Michael Makarounas was born in 1894 in Kalymnos, Greece.

Sevasti (Mahinis) Makarounas was born on September 20, 1895 in Kalymnos, Greece.

Michael and Sevasti were married in Kalymnos and moved to the United States on June 22, 1920. They settled in Youngstown, OH where they started a family. They had three children: Nicholas (1921-1997), Norma (b. 1922), and Michael P. (b. 1926). In 1924, Michael and Sevasti had moved back to Greece with Nicholas and Norma where later, Michael was born; the children attended school in Greece. Later, Michael Sr. returned to the United States to work at Youngstown Steel to support his family back home.

When Nicholas returned to the United States in 1938, Ellis Island registered his name as Macaronis. He later married the former Artemis Skias; they had three sons: Michael, Peter, and Phillip. Nick's brother, Michael and his wife, Sylvia lived in California and had three children: Jon, Sylvia, and Sondra; Michael currently lives in Phoenix, AZ. Norma also returned to the United States in 1938. She had two sons, Michael and Anthony Kantaras, from her first husband; she later married Aristides Zoumis, who passed away in the late 1980's. Norma currently lives in Youngstown, OH.

Sevasti returned to the United States on November 10, 1971 to reunite with her family. Michael and Sevasti eventually returned to Kalymnos, Greece where Sevasti passed away in 1984 and Michael passed away in 1986. May their memory be eternal.

# MAOURY

**Andrew Timothy**
**1975-**

**Heather (Kulczycki)**
**1978-**

Andrew Timothy Maoury was born on March 16, 1975, in Manassas, Virginia, to Stanley and Angelike Maoury.

Andrew graduated from St. Stephen's & St. Agnes High School in Alexandria, VA in 1993. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Communications in 1998 from George Mason University and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education in 2000 from George Mason University.

Andrew is currently serving as a Principal at Boyertown Area Senior High School, a post he has held since January 2014. Prior to that, Andrew has worked as an administrator at Radnor Middle School, Renaissance Academy Charter School, and as a secondary English teacher and wrestling coach.

Heather was born on January 8, 1978, in Saginaw, Michigan, to Robert and Peggy Kulczycki. She graduated from Waterford Mott High School in Waterford, Michigan, in 1996. Heather earned a Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Management from the University of Michigan in 2000. She is employed as a Project Manager for ADP. Heather has worked as an HR specialist and recruiter at Price Waterhouse, Transcend, and other national businesses.

Andrew married Heather Kulczycki on July 10, 2004 at Saint George Greek Orthodox Church in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

The couple lives in Sinking Spring with their two children, Stanley Andrew, age 8, and Maximos Robert, age 7, both students at Shiloh Hills Elementary School in the Wilson School District. Both attend Sunday School and Stanley serves in the Altar.

Andrew is a member of the William Penn Chapter No. 61 AHEPA and has served as coordinator of the St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival at our church since 2013. He also volunteers for the Community Youth Aid Panel in Berks County and is a wrestling official in PIAA District III.

# MARA

**Bernard**
**1960-**

**Susan (Rist)**
**1962-**

Bernard "Bernie" was born in Pitttsfield, Massachusetts in 1960 to Bernard and Elizabeth (McClure) Mara. He received a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from Worcester Polytechnic in 1982. He is currently the Vice President of Engineering working for Carpenter Technology. Bernard married Susan on May 15, 1983 at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Holyoke, Massachusetts.

Susan (Rist) was born in Middleton, Connecticut in 1962 to Richard and Mary Rist. Her grandfather immigrated to the United States from Sparta when he was seventeen years old. She received an Associate Degree of Science from Becker Junior College.

During their time in Enfield, Connecticut, Susan and Bernie were active members of Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. Bernie served as President of the Parish Council for a time, while Susan was active in the Philoptochos Chapter. The family relocated to Monroe, Connecticut in 1993 and became members of Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in Orange, Connecticut. Six years later they moved to Suwanee, Georgia and attended the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation in Atlanta, Georgia. Since relocating to this area in 2005, they have become active members of our Church. Bernard is a member of the kitchen crew during our church bazaar. He is also a member of AHEPA. Susan is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos and formerly served on The Board.

They are the proud parents of two daughters: Elaine Susan and Christine Michele. Elaine received a Bachelor's degree in English/Professional writing with a minor in Women's Studies and a Master's in Student Affairs in Higher Education Administration from Kutztown University. Christine earned a Bachelor's degree in Athletic Training at the University of Pittsburgh and is currently in her final year completing her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Sciences, Philadelphia. Elaine sang in the second choir for several years and Christine was an active member of the Church's GOYA.

# MARCANTONIS

**Leonidas**
**1981-**

**Irene (Theodossiou)**
**1980-**

Leonidas was born in Woodbury, New Jersey in 1981. He received his Bachelor's degree in Public Health. He is currently employed as Associate Director at Excentia.

Irene (Theodossiou) was born in 1980 in Reading, PA to Stanley and Marianthi Theodossiou.

Leonidas and Irene were married in Reading and are the proud parents of their 4 year-old son, Haralambos.

# MARMAROU

**Michael**
**1947-**

**Constantina (Paraskis)**
**1948-**

Michael Marmarou was born on January 25, 1947 in Filia, Mytlini. He came to the United States in 1974, and became a self-employed painter. Constantina Paraskis was born in Reading, PA on October 7, 1948.

Michael and Constantina are the proud parents of two daughters: Rallia and Evelyn. Rallia graduated from Governor Mifflin High School and PACE Institute. Evelyn also graduated from Governor Mifflin High School and PACE Institute.

# MARMAROU

**Stratton P.**
**1933-**

**JoAnne (Reiniger)**
**1940-**

Stratton was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1933 to Paraskeva and Maria Marmarou. His parents immigrated to the United States from Filia, Lesbos, Greece. He graduated from Reading High School. He earned a degree in Industrial Engineering and Police Science. He retired from the Reading Police Department and also from Albright College. He married JoAnne Reiniger in 1965.

JoAnne (Reiniger) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1940 to David Reiniger and Jean Coxon. She graduated from Reading High School. She did not work outside of the home.

Stratton was very active at St. Matthew's and is currently active at Sts. Constantine and Helen. At St. Matthew's he was past President of Council and served as the Financial Secretary for twenty years. He is currently serving on the Council at Sts. Constantine and Helen and has been a member of Council for twelve years. He is the past President of AHEPA and past President of GAPA.

Stratton and JoAnne are very active in the community. Stratton is a Reading City Councilman and has served in this position for nine years. He is the President of Reading Police Beneficial Association and has served in this position since 1977. He is the founder of Reading American Little League. He was the first Director of Police Athletic League. He was a Reading School District Director from 2002 until 2006. JoAnne was the Secretary of the Northwest Junior High School Alumni Association. She was also the Secretary of Albright College Ladies Auxiliary and Reading American Little League.

They are the parents of two children: Stephanie and Peter. Stephanie graduated from Reading High School and received a Bachelor of Science in Language from Albright College and Master's Degree in Spanish from Millersville University. Peter graduated from Reading High School and attended Albright College.

# MAVRELES

**Stephen**
**1913-1994**

**Minnie (Nickles)**
**1915-2007**

Stephen was born in Asia Minor in 1913, of Greek parents, Michael and Rallio (Karayiorgou) Mavreles. His baptismal name was Stavros. They fled to Mytilene, Lesvos when he was 10 months old during the Greek Genocide. The family left for the United States on May 29, 1916, on the *S.S. Ioannina,* and settled in Reading. He had two younger brothers, Thomas and Charles, and two sisters, Mary (wife of Christos Andrianakos) and Irene (wife of Leonard Pilot). Irene is living in Streetsboro, OH. Stephen left school early to work to support the family. He worked for many years as a heat treater at the Textile Machine Works.

Minnie was born in Manchester, NH in 1915 to Socrates and Helen Nickles (Greek surname was Athanasiou). Her baptismal name was Melpomene. The family came to the United States from Mytilene, just before her birth. Minnie had three younger sisters, Anna (wife of James Manolakelli), Kalliope (wife of Daniel Karafel), and Irene (wife of George Keener), and a brother Nick. Anna lives in Mount Penn and Nick lives in Lititz. She also had to leave school early to support the family. She worked for many years at the Berkshire Knitting Mills and Zipf's Candy.

Stephen and Minnie were married in 1940 in Reading and had three children: Christine, a retired school teacher and college professor in Delaware; Michael, a former Professor of Economics and retired Budget Director for the City of Reading; and Patricia, a retired elementary school teacher in the Reading School District. They had 5 grandchildren: Persephone, an interior designer; David, a Professor of Electrical Engineering at Harvard University; Stephen, a caseworker at the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; Michael, an elementary school teacher; and Niko, a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering at Schreyer Honors College at Penn State University.

Stephen and Minnie were married for almost 54 years at the time of Stephen's death. Minnie died in 2007. May their memory be eternal.

# MAVRELES

**Michael N.** **Anastasia (Mouzourakis-Maliarou)**

Michael N. was born in Reading, Pennsylvania to Stephen and Minnie Mavreles. Michael received a B.A. degree in Economics from Albright College and an M.A. in Economics from the University of Pittsburgh. He taught Economics at the University of Pittsburgh, Albright College, and Penn State. Afterwards, he worked for the City of Reading as the City Budget Director for 20 years. He has been the Treasurer of the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church since 1999. He had been Treasurer at St Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church for 15 years and at the Reading/Berks Conference of Churches from 2008 until 2011. He is a member of the William Penn Chapter 61 Order of AHEPA.

Anastasia was born in Mytilene, Lesvos, Greece and moved to Reading after graduating from Mytilene High School. Her parents were Vasilios and Vasso Mouzourakis who were very active at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church. Anastasia earned both a B.S. and an M.A. degree in Mathematics from Kutztown University, where she also worked as a Graduate Assistant. She served as Treasurer for KME Math Honor Society and graduated with honors. She worked for GPU Service Corporation – Information Services as a Senior Analyst. Anastasia was a member of the choir, a Sunday School teacher, and the Greek School teacher at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church and had served as Treasurer of the Daughters of Penelope. She was also the Greek School teacher at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church when the family moved.

Michael and Anastasia married in 1983 and are the parents of three sons: Stephen, Michael A., and Nicholas. Their sons were very active in Church where they attended Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, YAL, and served as Altar Boys. Stephen graduated from Reading High School and Penn State University with a B.S. degree in Economics. He works for the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services and is also a member of AHEPA. Michael A. graduated from Exeter High School and Penn State University with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education where he attended the award winning Professional Development School (PDS), and taught in Fairfax, Virginia. He had advanced to the Metropolitan level of the Oratorical Festival twice. Niko graduated from Exeter High School as Class Salutatorian and is currently a sophomore at Penn State University in the Schreyer Honors College, studying Chemical Engineering.

# McGOWAN

**Robert**
**1924-1999**

**Evangeline (Katzos)**
**1930-**

Evangeline (Katzos) McGowan was born in Reading on September 14, 1930, to Anastasious and Eleni (Chincha) Katzos. Her grandparents were Haralambos and Marianthe Chincha.

Evangeline, who everyone knows as Vangie, grew up in Reading and graduated from Reading High School in 1948.

She worked as a seamstress at Berkshire Knitting Mill for many years. She later became a Store Manager at Boscov's East, where she worked for 40 years until her retirement in 2007. The retirement proved short-lived and Vangie went back to work at Boscov's, where she is currently employed today.

Vangie met her future husband, Robert Henry McGowan, at a Greek dance. The couple were married on November 29, 1953, in Sts. Constantine & Helen Church at 8th & Court streets.

Robert H. McGowan was born in Reading on July 5, 1924, to Elmer and Mabel Catherine (Sterrett) McGowan. Robert attended Millersville University and worked for many years as Sales Manager for Ted Smith Flooring. Mr. McGowan passed away on January 19, 1999.

The couple had two children: Elaine Maria (McGowan) Shunk; and David Robert McGowan.

Vangie was a Sunday School teacher at our church for 35 years. She was also a member of the Junior Choir and the Senior Choir. She has been in charge of the Serving Line at the Greek Food Bazaar since the Bazaar's inception. She is a member of the Philoptochos, the Social Committee and the Centennial Celebration Committee. You can see Vangie's smiling face serving coffee during Fellowship every Sunday. Vangie was honored as Mother of the Year in 2008 and Outstanding Female Volunteer in 2013.

# MEDAGLIA

**Lawrence J., Sr.**
**1932-**

**Dawn (Pezdirc)**
**1940-**

Lawrence J. Medaglia, Sr. was born in Reading on June 26, 1932, to John and Josephine Medaglia, Sr. He is a 1950 graduate of Reading High School and attended Albright College and Kutztown University. He is retired after a 42-year career in Sales and Sales Management in the Dyestuff and Chemical industry. Larry served three years in the Army Security Agency during the Korean War.

Dawn (Pezdirc) Medaglia was born in Reading on April 15, 1940, to Emanuel M. and Ethel N. Pezdirc. She graduated from Reading High School in 1958.

The couple was married by Dawn's Lutheran Pastor on November 22, 1962, in Reading, and in an Orthodox ceremony on December 27, 1997, at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They reside in Wyomissing.

Larry is a member of Reading AHEPA chapter and both he and Dawn volunteer in Harry's Coffee Shop during the Greek Food Bazaar. Dawn is a member of the Philoptochos, where she serves as Sunshine Coordinator. Dawn also volunteers in the church Bookshop along with Christine Dialectos, and Dawn and Christine are the Welcome Committee, making a special effort to greet newcomers to our church. She was a Church Office helper and a Greek School parent volunteer. Dawn was honored in 2014 by the church as Mother of the Year.

The couple had four children: Lawrence J. Medaglia, Jr., a graduate of Wyomissing High School and Bloomsburg University; Michelle (Medaglia) Edwards, a graduate of Wyomissing High School and Bloomsburg University; and two older daughters: Dyana (deceased), and Laura, who resides in Arizona. Vanessa (Medaglia) Cicero, a granddaughter, was raised as their daughter. Vanessa is a graduate of Wyomissing High School and Penn State University, and now lives in Salt Lake City, Utah. Grandchildren include: Lawrence Maximillian, Daniel, Jack, Jessica, Nicole and Alexandra. They also have a great-grandson: Jerimiah.

# MEITZLER

**Thomas**
**1969-**

**Lisa Michelle (Beidler)**
**1968-**

Lisa Beidler was born in Reading in 1968 to Joanne Marmarou Weidner. She is a lifelong member of the church, participating in GOYA, Sunday School and Junior Choir. She graduated from Muhlenberg High School and then continued her education at the University of Delaware where she received a Bachelor of Science degree. She is currently employed as an Associate Director at AT&T Mobility. Lisa is active with the North Star PTA.

Thomas was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1969. He graduated from Unionville High School and then attended Penn State University where he received a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering. Thomas is currently employed as a civil engineer with AMT Engineering. He is a member of the New Castle Committee of 100 and is on the board of the Home Owners Association.

Lisa and Thomas currently reside in Wilmington Delaware. They are contented members of our church as they frequently commute to services here at Sts. Constantine and Helen.

They are the proud parents of Nicholas Alexander, age 5, who attends Sunday School and participates in the Christmas Pageant.

# MIDOUHAS

**Matthew**
**1968-**

**Helen (Hauser)**
**1969-**

Matthew Alexander Midouhas was born on September 22, 1968, in Philadelphia, to Arthur and Corinne (Delyanis) Midouhas. He graduated from the Worcester Academy in Worcester, MA in 1987, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Drexel University in 1992, and his M.B.A. from Lehigh University in 2003. He is a business owner who operates a day care center and owns rental properties in the Reading-area.

Helen Melissa Hauser was born on July 16, 1969, in West Palm Beach, FL to John and Arlene (Flesch) Hauser. She graduated from Southern Regional High School in Manahawkin, NJ in 1987. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Temple University in 1992, and a Master's Degree in Psychological Services from the University of Pennsylvania in 1995. She is employed as a consultant/trainer for Functional Family Therapy.

Matt and Helen were married on May 21, 1994, in Cody, Wyoming.

Matt is a member of the Reading AHEPA Chapter and the Fleetwood Rotary Club, where he is a Past President. Helen is a member of the Church Choir and a Sunday School teacher.

The couple resides in Blandon with their two children: Alexandros John Arthur Midouhas, who attends Berks Catholic High School, and Amara Corinna Arlene Midouhas, who attends Holy Guardian Angels Regional School. Alex is a member of GOYA and the KEFI Dance Troupe and serves in Altar. Amara is a member of the KEFI Dance Troupe.

# MILLER

**Eric**
**1958-**

**Toula (Zeppos)**
**1959-**

Toula Zeppos Miller was born in Lebanon, Pennsylvania in 1959. She is the daughter of Peter and Maria Zeppos. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree and is currently an accounts manager for Eric Miller-ReMax of Reading. Toula is active in the Junior League of Reading and is on the All Sports Committee at Wyomissing Area High School.

Eric Miller is the owner of Eric Miller-ReMax of Reading. Eric and Toula have three children: Eric Peter is a graduate of Wyomissing Area High School and Muhlenberg College; Nicolette Julianna is also a graduate of Wyomissing Area High School and Muhlenberg College; and Andrew Joseph is a graduate of Wyomissing Area High School and Millersville University.

# MILLER

**Leon**
**1948-**

**Rosemarie (Fuoco)**
**1950-**

Leon Miller was born in Reading on March 18, 1948, to William and Anna (Pappas) Miller. His mother's parents were both from the island of Lesvos and came to the U.S. in the early 1900s. A graduate of Twin Valley High School, Leon enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1966 and served a tour of duty in Vietnam. After leaving the service, Leon attended Ryder Electronic Institute, eventually starting his own business, Leon Miller Heating & Air Conditioning.

Leon married the former Rosemarie Fuoco in 1974. Rosemarie, born in Reading on April 8, 1950 to Peter and Rose Fuoco, earned a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education from Kutztown University.

Leon served on the Parish Council, including a term as Vice President in 1990, and continues to serve in the Choir. Leon is a fixture at the Greek Food Bazaar, where he can be found behind the grill in the Gyro Sandwich Area.

Leon is also a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61 AHEPA, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 131, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Rosemarie is a math tutor and does the bookkeeping for the family business. She was a Sunday School teacher for many years and a member of the Philoptochos.

Currently living in Green Hills, Leon and Rosemarie have two sons: Matthew, born on March 6, 1978, and a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University (and currently living in Seattle); and Christopher, born on April 12, 1979, and graduated from Columbia University with a Ph.D. (and currently living in London.) Both sons were active in GOYA and Altar.

# MILLER

**Michael Peter**
**1974-**

**Elizabeth (Young)**
**1981-**

Michael Peter Miller was born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1974. He is the son of Richard and Frances Miller and the grandson of Peter and Ralia Yatron. His grandparents immigrated to the United States from Mytilini, Greece.

Michael was a member of the GOYA, attended Sunday School and served in the altar as a young man. He is now active in the AHEPA. Michael holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Albright College and a Masters of Science degree from Drexel University. He is currently an archivist.

Elizabeth Young Miller was born in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania in 1981. She is the daughter of D. Edward and Susan Young. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Presbyterian College and a Masters of Library Science degree from Clarion University. She is an academic librarian.

Michael and Elizabeth were married on July 19, 2012. They are the proud parents of Ralia Elizabeth Miller who was born on July 7, 2014.

# MORRIS

**Nick**
**1923-2008**

**Stella (Sianis)**
**1927-**

Nick Morris was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Stella was born Stella Sianis in Reading, Pennsylvania.

Nick attended Pottstown High School and was employed by Tactair Fluid Controls. Nick Morris served in the Merchant Marine during World War II. He served on Church Parish Council from 1968 to 1970. Stella served in Philoptochos Society from 1950 to present.

Nick and Stella have two children, Maria and Tina. They have five grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Maria Morris O'Brien graduated from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Tina Morris Morrell graduated from the Chester Country School of Nursing, West Chester State University.

Nick Morris passed away August of 2008. Stella resides in Florida with her daughter.

# MORRIS

**Peter**
**1919-2010**

**Amelia (Paras)**
**1924-2014**

Peter Morris was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1919. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Morris. He was a United States Marine Officer, serving in Dayton, Ohio. He was a USMC Master Gunner Sergeant.

Amelia Paras Morris was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1924. She was a graduate of Reading High School. Amelia served with the Internal Revenue Service in Reading and Dayton, Ohio. She was a Taxpayer Internal Revenue Service Representative. Amelia was very active as secretary of the Ladies Lodge of AHEPA and the Daughters of Penelope.

Peter and Amelia were married in Reading, PA.

# MOWBRAY

**Charles S.**
**1948-**

**Jennifer Ann (Karetas)**
**1952-2011**

Charles S. Mowbray was born on August 20, 1948 in Philadelphia, PA to Catherine and Charles Mowbray, Jr. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He is currently an Environmental Director/ Consultant.

Jennifer Ann Karetas was born on April 29, 1952 in Conway, S.C. to Angelo H. and Mary (George) Karetas. She was a 1970 graduate of Reading High School and worked as a customer service manager. Jennifer served on the Parish Council at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church. She was a longtime member of the Philoptochos Society at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, where she served on the Philoptochos board and was a Past President. She was very active at both churches as a volunteer for baking, the Greek Food Bazaar and the Shelter. She was also a volunteer for the Girl Scouts.

Chuck and Jennifer were married on March 5, 1977. They were married for 34 years until Jennifer's untimely death on July 9, 2011.

Chuck and Jennifer have two children, Kara A. Mowbray, a graduate of the University of Delaware, and Matthew C. Mowbray, a graduate of Alvernia University. Both were members of GOYA and volunteered at the Greek Food Bazaar. Matthew also participated in GOYA basketball and served as a Captain in the Altar.

Chuck was chrismated into the Orthodox faith in 2002. He is a longtime member of the Parish Council at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, where he currently serves as Vice President. He also served as Chairman of the Greek Food Bazaar from 2011 to 2013. He is also a member of the Kitchen Crew and cooks for the Homeless Shelter.

Chuck is a member of the Reading AHEPA Chapter. He also serves on the Berks County Solid Waste Authority, where he is currently Board Chairman.

Chuck married Stella (Zaffary) Zdunowski on November 16, 2013. They reside in Reading.

# NICHOLAS

**Peter D., Sr.**
**1924-1996**

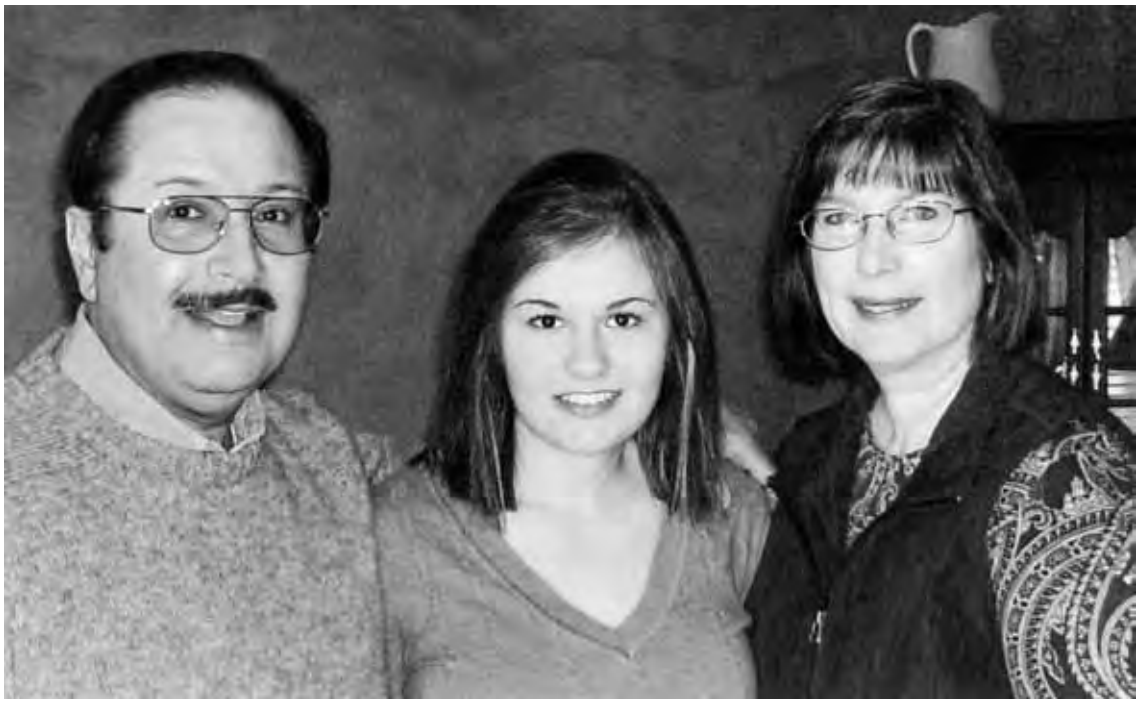
**Helen (Kaisoglus)**
**1924-**

Peter was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1924, son of the late Aristides and Helen (Daniel) Nicholas. He had one brother, Nick. He served in combat with the U.S. Army in the South Pacific during WWII. Upon returning home he married Helen in 1945. He had owned and operated Nicholas Photo Studio for twelve years. He was first employed as a welder by the former Brown Trailer Company. He was last employed by Security Guards, Inc. He passed away in 1996.

Helen was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1924 to the late Efthimios and Maria Kaisoglus. She had three siblings: the late Charles "Strat" Kaisoglus, the late Anna Batastini, and Peter Kaisoglus. She graduated in 1941 from Reading High School. She was employed by the former Berkshire Knitting Mills. She is retired from the Reading School District having been employed as a clerk/secretary. She currently resides at Mifflin Court in Shillington, Pennsylvania.

Peter was a member of the Reading Radio Club and was a past editor of their newsletter. Helen is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos and before moving to Mifflin Court was a faithful "baker" for the Philoptochos and the Church.

Peter and Helen had three children: Elaine, wife of Robert Ott; Dr. James D. Nicholas, husband of MaryAnne; and Dr. Peter D. Nicholas, Jr., husband of Maureen. There are three grandchildren: Peter D. Nicholas, III (Dan), Benjamin D. Nicholas (Ben) and Alexandra V. Nicholas (Alex).



# NICHOLAS

**Dr. James D.**
**1951-**

**Maryanne (Klopp)**
**1951-**

James was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Helen and the late Peter D. Nicholas, Sr. He is 10 minutes older than his twin brother, Dr. Peter D. Nicholas, Jr. James also has one sister, Elaine N. Ott. He graduated from Reading High School in 1969. James graduated from Penn State University in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business. He received his DDS from Temple University. James received his Master in Education from Alvernia University. He retired as a Dentist. James currently is a science teacher at the Conrad Weiser School District. He is an amateur radio operator and an active and past president of the Reading Radio Club. James and Maryanne were married in 1974.

Maryanne was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Lola Rowlands and the late Thomas Klopp. She graduated from Reading High School in 1969. Maryanne graduated in 1973 from Kutztown University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. She received a Master of Science degree from Drexel University in Microbiology. Maryanne is a substitute teacher at the Conrad Weiser School District. She is a member of the Reading Radio Club.

James and Maryanne are the parents of one daughter, Alexandra. Alexandra is currently a junior at Millersville University.

# NICHOLAS

**Dr. Peter D., Jr.**
**1951-**

**Maureen (Dodds)**
**1956-**

Peter was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Helen and the late Peter D. Nicholas, Sr. He is ten minutes younger than his twin brother, Dr. James D. Nicholas. Peter also has one sister, Elaine N. Ott. He graduated in 1969 from Reading High School. Peter graduated in 1973 magna cum laude from Albright College with a B.S. degree in Biology. He graduated in 1977 from Temple University School of Medicine. Peter was a member of AOA (medical honor society) upon graduation. He was board certified in Internal Medicine in 1980. Peter was board certified in Rheumatology from Tufts New England Medical Center in 1988. He is currently the Section Chief of Rheumatology for the Reading Health System and part owner of the Arthritis & Osteoporosis Center in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania. He married Maureen Dodds in 1979.

Maureen was born in Pottsville, Pennsylvania in 1956 to Martha and George Dodds Sr. Maureen graduated in 1977 from the Reading Hospital School of Nursing. She is currently a school nurse in the Wilson School District.

Peter and Maureen are the parents of two sons: Peter D. Nicholas III (Dan) and Benjamin D. Nicholas. Dan graduated from Schuylkill Valley High School in 2007 and was valedictorian. In middle school, Dan received a $10,000 savings bond as the first place national winner for a VFW essay contest. He graduated cum laude from University of Pennsylvania in 2011 with a B.A. in Biology and a minor in History. Dan was on the Dean's List and a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. He earned a Master of Science Degree from Drexel University in 2013. He is a second year medical student at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Ben graduated from Schuylkill Valley High School in 2010 and was valedictorian. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania in 2014 with a B.A. degree in Biological Basics of Behavior with minors in Classical Studies and Psychology. Ben was on the Dean's List and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. He will enter Drexel University School of Medicine in August 2014.

# NOLL

**John, Jr.**
**1978-**

**Anastasia Marie (Orphanos)**
**1975-**

John was born April 11, 1978 to John Luther and Kathy (Rennel) Noll whose ethnic roots are from Germany, Ireland and Poland.

John received his Masters of Education from Wilkes University, and is a teacher in the Kutztown Area School District. John is a member of the Kutztown Area Teacher's Association and served as Vice President in 2007 and as President 2013 to the present. John has also served as Council President at Friedens Lutheran Church, Oley, PA and also taught Sunday School there. John is also a member of AHEPA.

Anastasia Marie Orphanos was born in West Reading on January 26, 1975, the daughter of Ernest Nick and Patricia Louise (Steffa) Orphanos, whose roots are from Greece and Albania. Anastasia received a Masters of Education from Wilkes University and is a teacher in the Reading School District. She is a member of Reading Education Association, Building Representative for Northeast Area Elementary School (2011-2014). She is also a member of the PHI SIGMA PI Fraternity (President 1997–1998) at Bloomsburg University.

John and Anastasia were married on November 14, 2009. They have a 2-year-old son, John Christopher, who is attending Albright Early Learning Center.

The family has been very active in Sts. Constantine & Helen Orthodox Church, teaching Sunday School and supporting and participating in the activities.

# ORPHANOS

**Ernest**
**1947-2012**

**Patricia (Steffa)**
**1948-**

Ernest Nicholas Orphanos was born on June 11, 1947, in Reading, to Nicholas and Irene (Zaferes) Orphanos. After college, Ernie became a HVAC Contractor.

Patricia Steffa was born on September 13, 1948, in Philadelphia, to Dr. Peter L. and Andigoni (Ticco) Steffa. Patricia completed her college and post-graduate studies and worked as a Spanish teacher, ESL teacher, office manager and substitute teacher in the Wilson School District.

Ernie and Patricia were married on August 22, 1971. They have two adult children: Anastasia, wife of John Noll; and Nicholas Peter, husband of Mary Burke. Anastasia and Nicholas were members of GOYA and attended Greek School. Nicholas was also an Altar Boy. There are also three grandchildren: John Christopher Noll, Anthony John Orphanos, and Patrick Anastasios Orphanos.

Ernie served on the Parish Council, was a GOYA Advisor from 1986-1996, Girls Basketball Coach, Kitchen Crew member and Shade Tree Commission member. Ernie also volunteered at the Greek Food Bazaar. In his younger days, he was a member of GOYA and an Altar Boy. Ernie was a member of the William Penn Chapter No. 61 AHEPA, where he served as Athletic Director and organized the first golf tournament for the chapter to raise money for scholarships. Ernie also volunteered with the Boy Scouts.

Pat is a member of the Philoptochos Society, where she was a Past President, and also served as GOYA Advisor from 1986-1996. Pat also volunteered many years during the Greek Food Bazaar. She is a member of the Breast Cancer Support Services of Berks County, Relay for Life, and the American Cancer Society. She was a Girl Scouts leader from 1982-1986.

Ernie passed away on July 23, 2012. The Reading AHEPA Chapter renamed its annual golf tournament in his honor. The event has raised thousands of dollars for scholarships.

# ORPHANOS

**Nicholas P.**
**1977-**

**Mary Bridget (Burke)**
**1977-**

Nicholas P. Orphanos was born to Ernest N. and Patricia L. Orphanos December 7, 1977, Reading, Pennsylvania. His Great Grandparents emmigrated from Asia Minor, and Albania. His year of Orthodox Chrismation was 1978.

Nicholas received his Masters of Education from Wilmington University. Educator – Head of World Language Department, Lenape High School, N.J.

On November 8, 2003, Nicholas married Mary Bridget Burke, daughter of Patrick and Mary Burke. Mary Bridget was born in Camden, NJ June 8, 1977. Her family came from Ireland.

Mary Bridget received a Masters in Education from La Salle University and teaches Spanish.

Nicholas took part in the Church Organizations, serving as President of GOYA 1995-1996, on the Basketball Team and as an Alter Boy.

Nicholas and Mary Bridget have two children: Anthony John who was born on April 24, 2007 and Patrick Anastasios, who was born on May 23, 2008.

# OTT

**Robert F.**
**1946-**

**Elaine N. (Nicholas)**
**1946-**

Robert was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1946 to the late Francis and Marguerite Ott. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1964. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education/major in English and Comprehensive Reading from Kutztown University. Bob taught at Northwest Middle School in the Reading School District for thirty-four years. He coached junior/senior high school baseball and soccer. He also enjoys playing golf and umpiring baseball. He married Elaine in 1971.

Elaine was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1946 to Helen (Kaisoglus) and the late Peter D. Nicholas, Sr. She has twin brothers: Dr James D. Nicholas and Dr. Peter D. Nicholas, Jr. She proudly graduated from Reading High School in 1964. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education/Spanish major in 1968 and a Master of Education degree in Secondary Education/Spanish major in 1971. Both degrees were earned from Kutztown University (formerly Kutztown State Teachers College). She taught Spanish/Advanced Spanish in the Reading School District for 35 years, mostly at the “Castle on the Hill”.

Elaine is a very active member of St. Xenia Philoptochos. She enjoys being a member of the Philoptochos “bakers”. She is the co-Chair of the Philoptochos spring bake sale. She is a member of the committee that schedules all the baking dates for both the Philoptochos spring bake sale and the Church bazaar. She maintains the records for pastry and bread baked for both events. She handles the money for all the purchases made while baking. Finally, she is the “guru” of the storage containers for the pastries. She has donated containers she purchased for storage and is responsible for making sure the containers are clean before baking begins.

Elaine and Bob reside in Sinking Spring.

# PANAGAKOS

**Peter**
**1925-2011**

**Renee (Scheweizter)**
**1930-1990**

Peter Panagakos was born in Brooklyn, NY in 1925 to Spartan immigrants, John and Aspasia Panagakos. He was the youngest of six siblings but the only one to receive a college degree which was in engineering. He was employed as a telephone engineer. He was a member of the Greek American Veterans Association, Pioneers Club, Bowling Leagues and the Order of Masons.

Renee was also born in Brooklyn, NY in 1930 to Eugenia and Samuel Scheweizter (who had Russian, German and English roots). Renee was a high school graduate when she became Executive Secretary of Agriculture in New York City. Renee's mother was one of the first woman workers for the US Selective Service in New York City.

Renee's Orthodox Chrismation occurred in 1948. In 1950, Peter married Renee where they lived in Rittenhouse in Muhlenberg, PA. They were the parents of two daughters; June Podagnosi and Anne Pappalas.

Peter passed away in 2011 and Renee in 1990. May Their Memory Be Eternal.

# PANOS

**Vasilios**
**1938-**

**Anna (Kakalellis)**
**1942-**

Vasilios and Anna Panos both immigrated to America from Greece. Bill was born in Petra. Anna (Kakalellis) was born in Filia.

Bill immigrated to New York City in 1956 and worked for 15 years as a machinist for B&W Manufacturing. Bill was owner and President of Reading Attachment and Supply Company, a manufacturer of sewing machine parts. He retired in 2004.

Anna immigrated from Greece to Canada in 1960. She moved to New York three years later. Anna graduated from Cosmetology school in New York and established a Beauty Salon before moving to Sinking Spring in 1971 with her family.

Bill and Anna were married in 1963. They moved to Reading in 1970 and joined Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

Bill and Anna have three children. Aspasia attended Wilson High School and Kutztown University. Euripides attended Wilson High School and Lehigh University and currently lives in Tampa, FL. Marianthi attended Wilson High School and Penn State University. They have seven grandchildren.

Bill and Anna are active with the church and helped at the Annual Food Bazaar. They are now “snow birds” and spend most of the year in Indian Rocks Beach, FL.

# PAPOUTSIS

**James**
**1919-1991**

**Maria (Pothos)**
**1937-**

James was born in Reading, PA. He was one of four children born to Pantelis and Afrodite Papoutsis who emigrated from Pergamou, Turkey to the U.S.A. in the early 1900s. In his youth, Jim loved to play baseball; in his adult years he was a Philadelphia Phillies fan. Jim served in the United States Army during World War II. After his discharge, he worked at Parish Pressed Steel Co. (formerly Dana Corporation) where auto parts were manufactured.

Maria (Pothos) Papoutsis was born in Volos, Greece. She is the youngest of four children of Constantinos and Vasiliki Pothos. Maria was a young girl when the Germans invaded Greece during World War II, but she survived the terrors of the war. When Jim traveled to Volos to visit relatives, he was introduced to Maria. He was immediately attracted to the lovely Maria, and they married within a month. They moved to Reading, PA where they established a residence, and became the parents of two children, a son, Pantelis "Pat" and a daughter, Vasiliki "Vasso".

In 1972, Jim moved to Greece so that Pat and Vasso could experience their heritage with their maternal relatives and to become proficient in the Greek language. It was in Volos where Pat learned to play soccer, a favorite sport among the Greeks. One of Pat and Vasso's favorite activities was playing at the beach, along the Aegean Sea, which was close to their home. After nearly three years of living in Volos, Jim and his family moved back to Reading. Pat and Vasso attended Sunday school regularly; Pat was an altar boy, and Vasso is a Sunday school teacher. Pat and Vasso graduated from Wilson Senior High School, and furthered their education by earning college degrees.

Maria has been involved with the church's annual bazaar by helping with the baking and by working with the many ladies who make loukoumades.

Maria has four grandchildren; Alexandra and Brianna Papoutsis, and Amanda and Adam Tilley, whom she adores. Maria likes to sing Greek songs to them. All are students in the Wilson School District, and they love going to Sunday school. Sadly, Jim died in 1991; he didn't get to experience the joy of becoming a Pappou!

# PAPOUTSIS

**Pantelis**
**1964-**

**Dolores (Martinez-Benitez)**
**1964-**

Pat, born in Reading, moved to Greece at the age of eight. He lived in Volos with his parents and young sister for two years. He became proficient in reading and writing Greek, and he learned to play soccer. After graduating from the Wilson School District, Pat enlisted in the Army and was active with the Airborne Rangers in Alaska. He founded a school, "The Native Survivalist", where he taught his students how to survive if they were lost in the woods. Pat earned his MBA at Great Valley, Penn State. He's employed as a Safety Manager at Carpenter Technology. During a trip to Honduras, Pat met Yuni.

Born in Honduras, Yuni is one of eight children of Rolando, a lawyer, and his wife, Emma. She earned an Associate degree at a university in Tegucigalpa. Yuni worked for the Army Construction Co., the Epsilon Construction Co., and in the accounting department at the Coca Cola Co. Pat and Yuni married in Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Yuni is a naturalized American citizen. She works at Lowe's, where her fluent Spanish allows her to help Latino shoppers. Their two daughters are Alexandra Emma and Brianna Maria.

Alex and Brianna attended Sunday school and Vacation Bible School, were members of GOYA, played on the basketball and soccer teams, and helped at the bazaar. Both are students at Wilson Sr. High School, where they play varsity soccer at the local, district, and state competitions; they also play soccer with a team that competes in neighboring states. They are active volunteers for the Greater Berks Food Bank, Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Humane Society, and Berks Heim, and go caroling at the elderly shelter. Alex plays the flute and piccolo with Wilson's orchestra, concert band, and marching band; is a member of National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society; won the Michael O'Pake Good Citizenship Award; is a past president of her class; and was named Berks County Scholastic Poet Laureate in 2014. In 8th grade, Brianna played the viola in the school's orchestra, is a member of National Junior Honor Society, was chosen to be a member of Student Government, and is a member of Future Business Leaders of America. In April 2014, Brianna was awarded a cash prize by the Berks County Medical Society for her entry in the Berks Science and Engineering Fair. In June, she won Wilson's Ninth Grade Science Award. Brianna would like to further her education to become a doctor.

# PAPPALAS

**Leonidas**
**1912-1999**

**Hareclia (Maniatis)**
**1912-2000**

Leonidas was born in Chios, Greece, on September 17, 1912. He was the son of Themistocles and Artemis Pappalas. His father came from Hora, Chios, while his mother's family came from Smyrna, Turkey. In 1941, he joined the US Military Army after Pearl Harbor. He then earned his United States Citizenship. Leonidas, with a fifth grade education, became a Merchant Marine and then was employed as a painter with Bethlehem Steel. While in New York, he met George Maniatis who arranged the marriage of his sister, Hereclia, to Leonidas.

Hareclia "Harriet" Pappalas was born in Krestina, Greece, on July 12, 1912. She was the daughter of Aristedes and Trisevyeni Maniatis. In 1947, she immigrated to America and married Leonidas when she became a homemaker. She was also employed by the Nabisco Cookie Company. Leonidas and Hereclia raised their three children; Thomas, Nick and Arta in Chicago, IL.

Leonidas passed away in 1999 and Hereclia in 2000. May Their Memory Be Eternal.

# PAPPALAS

**Reverend Thomas**
**1948-**

**Presvetera Anne (Panagakos)**
**1957-**

Father Tom was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1948 to Leonidas and Hereclia Pappalas. Through the years he served as an altar boy, and was active in GOYA and YAL. He served two terms as president in the Conferences of Churches. He also served two years on the board of the Sons of Pericles. He was an active volunteer at the Chicago Institute of the Blind before he graduated from Calmuet High School in 1967. After high school he joined the U.S. Navy, and was honorably discharged in 1970. He then attended DeVry Institute where he received a degree in Electronic Technology. It was after his graduation that he followed his calling when he enrolled at the Hellenic College in Massachusetts, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1978. He then continued his studies at the Holy Cross Seminary and received his Master's Degree in Theology in 1981. In the fall of 1981 he was assigned as a lay minister in Richmond, Virginia. Here he was ordained as a deaconate and then entered the Priesthood. His first parish was in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, in 1983. It was in August of 1985, that Fr. Tom began his ministry here at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. He has the distinction of being the longest serving priest in our history as he enters his 30th year. Fr. Tom also became the first non-Protestant President of the Reading Council of Churches in 1994.

Pres. Anne was born in Brooklyn, NY, in 1957, to Peter and Renee Panagakos. She attended Pace University, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Fr. Tom and Presvetera were married in 1981. She is a member of the Sisterhood of Presvyteras. After moving to Reading, Pres. Anne was very active in developing the Nursery Program in 1985 and chaired the Oratorical Festival for many years. She also formed the AGLOW and participated in the organization from 1985 to 1990. She has been a member of the choir since 1970 and participates in the Book Study since 2010. Other community involvements include Marriage Council Team of Conference of Churches 1997-2002, Mom's in Touch Prayer Group 1991-1996, Reading Choral Society 1998-1990 and HANAC (NYC) 1975-1980.

Fr. Tom and Pres. Anne are the parents of three children: Jennifer, wife of Jarret Fernez, Peter, currently in the seminary at Holy Cross School and Renee, a student at East Stroudsburg University. They are also the proud grandparents of their beautiful granddaughter, Eleni.

# PAPPAS

**Haralambos**
**1935-**

**Mary (Karoglanis)**
**1935-**

Haralambos "Harry" Pappas was born on April 17, 1935, to Kostos and Margarita (Xenides), in Thedosia, Greece. He came to the United States in 1956 and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was self-employed as a general contractor.

Haralambos married Mary (Karoglanis) Pappas on January 7, 1962, in Stavroupoli, Greece.

Mary was born on June 29, 1935, to Hercules and Morfoula Karoglanis, in Nea Maditos, Greece.

Haralambos and Mary have two children: Constantine, born on October 8, 1962, and a graduate of Widener University, currently living in Swarthmore, PA, and Margaret, born on August 27, 1965, and a graduate of Temple University, currently living in Reading, PA. Constantine is married to Sonya (Enoch) Pappas and they have three children: Alexander, Nicholas and Eleni. Margaret is married to Spiro Phyrillas and they have three children: Maria, Anastasis, and Vasilis.

Haralambos and Mary are lifelong members of St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Media, PA, where they were active members of the AHEPA and Daughters of Penelope.

Haralambos served many years on the Parish Council at St. George, and is a Past President, and Mary was a member of the Philoptochos.

In 2005, the couple moved to Berks County and began attending Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They currently reside in Pennside.

Harry is now a member of the Reading AHEPA chapter.

# PARASKIS

**Therapon**
**1886-1975**

**Evelyn**
**1921-**

Evelyn was born in the village of Filia, on the island of Mytilene. She completed the sixth grade there (equivalent to 12th grade in the United States of America) and then attended and earned a degree from a dressmaking school. A very talented seamstress, Evelyn taught sewing to students in Greece until she came to America.

In 1947, Therapon Paraskis, a widower who had been residing in Massachusetts, went to Filia on vacation. There he met and fell in love with Evelyn, and the two were married. They came to the States the following year, and in 1950 Evelyn gave birth to Constantina, who is now married to Michael Marmarou and has two daughters of her own.

Evelyn used her talent as a seamstress, having worked in that capacity for Sieber's Fur and Kiddie Shop, the Heather Shop, Bloom's Bridal Shop and Bruno's Furs.

In 1964 Evelyn was hit head-on by a drunken driver and given her last rites at the Reading Hospital. She spent three months there and was told she would never walk again. With her indomitable spirit, she persevered and proved everyone wrong. Sadly, Evelyn recently suffered a stroke and can no longer use her talent as a fine seamstress.

# PASAYIOTIS
## "PASYOTIS"

**Nicholas George**
**1865-1938**

**Chrissada (Fotiou Drinis)**
**1867-1939**

Nicholas George Pasayiotis (1865-1938) was born in the Village of Harakopio, Peloponnisos, Greece. He married Chrissada Fotiou Drinis who died in 1939. They had three children: Kalliope, Georgios and Thanasios. Nicholas came to America in 1904 and was followed by his wife and children in 1909. In 1911, Nicholas opened a Greek restaurant at 649 Cherry Street in Reading where many Greeks from Reading would gather to discuss the affairs of the Greek community, including the need for an Orthodox Church. A few years later the family sold the restaurant and bought Peter Kourahos' store at 152 N. 9th Street where they sold newspapers, tobacco and novelties; it also served as a barbershop and hat cleaning shop. The business eventually moved to 850-852 Penn Street.

Kalliope married George Lampros from Kalamata, Peloponissos; they had four children: Nicholas, Andrew, Mary, and Katherine. For many years, Nicholas owned and operated the Lampros Funeral Home on South 9th Street. He and his wife, Irene, also owned and operated the Berks Art Store on Penn Street. They had three children: George, John, and Chrissada. Andrew became an optometrist and operated his business in various locations. Mary married John Hutzell; they adopted two children, Billy and John, from Greece. Katherine married Jack Matz and had three children: Jack, James, and Joanne.

George Pasayiotis married Catherine Sotis in 1928. Their first son died in infancy. Two years later, in 1931, their son Nicholas was born. George became a teacher of electricity in the Reading School District before retiring in 1963. His son, Nicholas, served in the U.S. Army for three years and then completed his education at Albright College and Temple University. He was a podiatrist in Reading for many years. He changed his name from Pasayiotis to Pace after he received his medical degree. Nicholas and his wife, Theresa, have three sons: George, a podiatrist in New York City; James, a podiatrist in Wyomissing; and Lee, a financial advisor in the Reading area.

Thanasios "Tom" Pasayiotis married Frances Vogel in 1930. He changed the spelling of his last name to Pasyotis. They had two daughters, Doris and Leda, both teachers. Tom was a sign painter and an accomplished artist. His shops and studios were located on Cherry Street and North 13th Street in Reading. Frances was a registered nurse and worked throughout Berks County. Doris married Gust Zogas and they had three children: Thomas, a metallurgist with Carpenter Technology; Chrissada, a social worker with the State of Pennsylvania; and Elaynee, part owner of a public relations firm in Bethlehem, PA. Leda married Robert Bowers and they had two children: Robin, married to Stavros Flamporis and Holly Bowers.

# PATESTAS

**Panagiotis**
**1973-**

**Marie (Bernhart)**
**1967-**

Panagiotis "Pete" Pantelis Patestas was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1973. He is the son of Maria and Pantelis Patestas who came to the United States from Oinousses, Chios, Greece.

Panagiotis graduated from Reading High School and is employed as an EC & M worker.

Marie Elizabeth Bernhart was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1967 to Myra and James Bernhart. She is a high school graduate who enjoys homeschooling her sons, Yanni and Matthew, who are both active acolytes.

Panagiotis and Marie were married in 1997. They are also the parents of Vanessa and Tiffany.

# PEHLIVANIDIS

**Gerasimos**
**1979-**

**Kathy (Petris)**
**1980-**

Gerasimos Pehlivanidis was born in Dearborn, Michigan in 1979 to Dimitri Nidis (shortened from Pehlivanidis) and Elizabeth Pehlivanidis, both from Thessaloniki, Greece. He graduated from Lawrence Tech University in Southfield, MI and is currently employed by Customers Bank.

In his youth, Gerasimos attended Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Detroit, Michigan.

Kathy was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1980 to Lyvia and Anthony Petris. Her family originates from Kos, Greece. In 2000, she graduated from Wilson High School, West Lawn, Pennsylvania. She earned an Associates Degree in Special Education from RACC and worked in the Reading School District for 10 years. She is currently employed by Park Place Diner as a hostess.

Kathy attended Greek School and Sunday School at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church; she was also a GOYA member.

Gerasimos and Kathy were married in Reading in 2011.

# PETRAKES

**Emmanuel**
**1886-1958**

**Eftihia (Volioti)**
**1887-1985**

Mr. Petrakes was born on the Island of Kos, Greece and immigrated to the United States in 1909.

As one of the earliest Greeks to settle in the Reading area, he was instrumental in founding the first Church of our area.

Together with several of the other early forefathers, he toiled and sacrificed to help provide a place for himself and his family to worship.

Also, through the years, Mr. Petrakes was a member of several committees within the Greek Community.

In 1917, he married the former Eftihia Volioti. They had three children: Irene (Tripolitis), James, and Maria (Gehas).

Mr. Petrakes was employed most of his life by the Berkshire Knitting Mills.

May their memories be eternal.

# PETRAKES

**James George**
**1920-2014**

**Rita (Magdalinos)**
**1928-**

James George Petrakes was born in Reading, PA on April 13, 1920 to Emmanuel and Eftihia (Voliotis) Petrakes. He was educated in Reading. He was employed by Textile Machine Works for over 20 years, and later by the Twin Valley School District until his retirement in 1975. James was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and served on the *USS McNair* and *USS Fleming.* His hobbies included bowling and cars.

Rita (Magdalinos) was educated at the Bryland Institute of Cosmetology and was a beautician for many years.

James and Rita were married on July 29 1951. They have two daughters, Christine, who is married to Pete Shaeffer, and Irene, who is married to Dave Becker. They have one granddaughter, Nicole "Nikki" Becker.

James and Rita were involved in many aspects of our Church community over the years. James was a long time member of AHEPA. During our many Bazaars, you could find Rita in the kitchen as a faithful Bazaar baker. James was one of the first people you would see entering the Bazaar since he was responsible for managing and controlling the parking lot traffic flow.

Rita was a member of the Daughters of Penelope and also held the office of President of Daughters of Penelope.

James died on November 23, 2014. May his memory be eternal.

# PETRAKIS

**Anastasios F.**
**1907-2002**

**Dionysia "Sadie" (Fournaris)**
**1912-1975**

Tassos was born 1907 on Kos, to Frangoulis and Maria (Lambros) Petrakis, coming to the U.S. in 1927. He went on to become a grocery store and diner owner before retiring. Tassos was a member of GAPA and AHEPA and a devout church attendee.

Dionysia "Sadie" was born 1912, on Kos, to Evimeros and Marigo (Pazakis) Fournaris. They came to America in 1913, settling in Hyannis, MA.

Tassos and Dionysia were married in 1939. Sadie's widowed mother and 4 of the 5 siblings then joined them in Reading. In 1942, Tassos and Dionysia had a son, Frankie T. He married Cynthia Kousoulides. Sadie was a W.T. Grant candy department manager before retiring

Sunday afternoons in their home were a tradition for the extended Fournaris and Petrakis families. For 31 years, they had a 3 generational family, as Marigo lived with them until Sadie's sudden passing in 1975. Everyone grieved the loss of this dynamic woman. Tassos then joined his son's household, until his demise in 2002, at the glorious age of 95.

Tassos was a vital member of his son's household for 26 years. A devout Christian, he urged his grandchildren Nysia and Ty to attend church, Sunday School, and Greek School, waking them each morning, preparing their favorite foods, and playing endless games of Bingo with them. His kind, gentle presence was a blessing to all.

One could not meet two more generous, loving people as Sadie and Tassos. May their memories be eternal.

# PETRAKIS

**Frankie Tassos**
**1942-**

**Cynthia (Kousoulides)**
**1947-**

Frankie was born 1942 in Reading, to Tassos and Sadie (Fournaris) Petrakis. After Reading HS, Frankie earned BS degrees from Temple/Penn State, was a mechanical engineer and is presently an IT manager. He served on the church board for 34 years, was financial secretary and recorder for Project Independence, was a choir member, GOYA advisor, Bazaar Co-Chairman, and serves on the local AHEPA Board of Governors.

Frankie's wife, Cynthia C., daughter of Christos and Niki (Arnidis) Kousoulides, was born 1947 in Reading. After Pottsgrove HS, Cindy earned a BA in Philosophy/English (Cedar Crest College), was a restaurant co-owner and is now a jewelry business owner. A lifetime Choir member, she taught Sunday School, was a GOYA advisor, and is a lifetime member of Philoptochos. She served as VP under 8 Presidents, was Bake Sale Coordinator, and is presently the Chaplain and Parliamentarian.

Frank and Cindy married in 1970, after "meeting" at the annual church picnic. Their roots are traced to Kos, Istanbul, Cyprus, and Mytilene. Two children, Dionysia F. and Anastasios Christos "Ty" are church members. Frank can always be found in the kitchen and is known for his pastitsio. He enjoys poker, Wild Turkey, and is a lifetime Shade Tree Commission member.

Cindy enjoys knitting for Lifeline & working the Bazaar Gift Room. The couple can be found on the dance floor at most events. They were contributors to the new Sunday School wing and Project Abiding Faith, served on the Centennial Committee, and were Pillars for the 100th Church Anniversary Gala. Church is the center of their lives.

# PETRAKIS

**Dionysia F.**
**1971-**

"Nysia" was born 1971, in Reading, to Frankie and Cynthia (Kousoulides) Petrakis. Her roots can be traced to Kos, Cyprus, and Mytilini. A graduate of Mt. Penn HS, she participated in numerous activities, most notably chosen as a representative for the Berks Young Woman Of the Year Contest. Nysia earned a BA in art and graphic design at Millersville University and is a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority.

Nysia attended Sunday School, Greek School, participated in GOYA/GOYA basketball, and served as President. She was our Sr. Oratorical Contest winner, representing us in Districts, and received the Orthodox Youth Award.

Following college, Nysia was active in the Junior League of Reading, before moving to Philadelphia. While working at Penn fulltime, she completed the Business Management Program at the Wharton School of Business, with high honors, was a Greater Delaware Valley Orthodox YAL member, and is a member of the University of Pennsylvania's Nursing Green Team.

Nysia resides in Bryn Mawr and continues working while pursuing her education. She is an academic coordinator in the Biobehavioral Health Science Department at Penn's School of Nursing and was honored as a 2013 Employee of The Year. She remains a steward of our church, is a Sunday School teacher's aide, and is the proud godmother of Jessica Pappas and Max Frank Petrakis.

Growing up, Nysia loved the presence of Papou Tassos Petrakis, whose Faith and positive attitude are reflected in her character. Nysia is the "heart" of the Petrakis family and believes that Christ guides her life in all things.

# PETRAKIS

**Anastasios "Ty" Christos**
**1973-**

**Kerri Ann (MacWilliams)**
**1976-**

Ty was born 1973, in Reading, to Frankie and Cynthia (Kousoulides) Petrakis. After Antietam HS, he earned a Drexel BS in mechanical engineering. Ty attended Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA/GOYA basketball, was an altar boy, and was a Jr. Oratorical Festival winner. He earned the Orthodox Youth Award, a Dr. Christian Scholarship, and a partial Drexel scholarship. Ty is presently a project design engineer for Holtec, International.

Kerri Ann was born 1976, in Hatfield, PA to Frank and Janis MacWilliams. A Lenape HS grad, she is a Drexel summa cum laude graduate with a BA in accounting/financing. After international accounting work for Johnson & Johnson, Kerri is now the Nestle Gerber Mid-Atlantic Director of Sales for 5 states. An avid marathon runner/biathalon participant. Kerri's bright smile and blue eyes are magnetic.

Kerri and Ty met at Drexel and were married in New Jersey by Father Tom in 2003. They currently reside in Marlton, NJ and have 2 adorable little sons – Max Frank and Lukas Ty, who are the lights of their grandparents' lives. (Cindy and Frankie Petrakis)

Kerri is a dynamic, energized individual, always making time for family while excelling at her career. Ty, an SAE frat brother, the quintessential party animal dancing up a storm at most events, is also a dedicated husband and father. He loved Papou Tassos Petrakis for keeping him on the right path in his teenage years. Despite the distance, the couple remain stewards of our church and are raising Max and Luke in a Christian atmosphere, filled with the love of Christ.

# PETRIS

**Anthony**
**1948-**

**Lyvia (Georgeadis)**
**1952-**

Anthony "Tony", the son of Dimitri and Katerina Petris, was born in Kos, Greece in February 1948. Tony grew up in Kos, graduated from the gymnasio (high school) and attended electrician school. He also served in the Greek military. In 1973, following marriage to his wife, Lyvia, Tony immigrated to the United States and settled in the Reading area. In his new home, Tony was first employed as an electrician, followed by many years as a restaurant owner. He is currently retired but regularly gives his time to help a family-owned restaurant.

Lyvia was born in Reading, PA, in January 1952, and is the daughter of James and Christine (Fournaris) Georgeadis. Lyvia graduated from Reading High School in 1969 and from Kutztown University in 1973 with a B.S. in Elementary Education. Her career in the field of education includes many years as a teacher at Lauer's Park Elementary School in the Reading School District. Most recently, Lyvia has been serving as Peer Facilitator (literacy-based coach) for the teaching staff and is the coordinator for all volunteer programs at Lauer's Park. She is also the director for the United Way's "Ready, Set, Read" program at Lauer's Park.

As a member of our parish, Tony provides his assistance wherever it is needed and is actively involved with the annual Greek Food Bazaar. He is also a current member of the William Penn Chapter of AHEPA. Lyvia grew up in the church and was active in the Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, and the Church Choir. She has served as a Sunday School teacher and is a member of the Ladies Philoptochos Society, actively serving on the Memorials (Kolyva) Committee. Like her husband, Lyvia gives her time and assistance each year in support of our Greek Food Bazaar.

Tony and Lyvia were married in July 1973 and are the proud parents of two daughters: Kristina, the wife of Antoni Antonellos, and Kathy, the wife of Gerasimos Pehlivanidis. They are also blessed with two grandsons, Theodore and Dimitri.

# PETRIS

**George**
**1958-**

**Joanna (Kallergis)**
**1960-**

George Petris was born on October 7, 1958, in Kos, Greece, to Dimitrios and Katerina Petris. He graduated from high school and junior college in Greece. He came to the United States in 1998. He is employed as a machine operator.

Joanna Kallergis was born on February 21, 1960, in Kos, Greece, to Emmanuel and Archondia Kallergis. Joanna came to the United States in 1972. Joanna graduated from George Washington High School in New York City. She is employed as an assistant controller. She is a member of the Philoptochos Society and also prepares Koliva for church services.

George and Joanna were married on October 22, 1982. The couple reside in Sinking Spring. They have two children, Archondia (Petris) Sourasis, who is a graduate of Montclair State University in Montclair, NJ, and is a dietician; and Dimitri Petris, who is a graduate of Temple University in Philadelphia and is a civil engineer.

# PETTIS

**Christ**
**1926-2008**

**Mary (Carnoles)**
**1932-**

Christ Pettis was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1926 to Ignatios and Triantafilia (Cordopatis) Pettis. He attended the Reading public schools and graduated from Reading High School in the class of 1944. Christ was also a 1952 graduate of the prestigious Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II, he served his country in the Army Air Corps.

In 1956, Christ was appointed by the mayor of Reading to plan the current Reading Airport. He was a member of the American Red Cross for 15 years and served as the Chairman of Budget and Finance. An active parishioner, Christ was a member of the Church choir and served as first president of GOYA. He also served as a member of the parish council in 1956, 1960, 1965 and 1966. Christ passed away in 2008.

Mary was born in Reading in 1932 to Pantilis "Peter" and Despina (Hatzipavlis) Carnoles. She graduated from Reading High School in 1949 and from Kutztown State College in 1953 with a B.S. in Art Education. She taught art for 31 years until her retirement. Mary has been affiliated with the Sunday School from the time she was a senior in high school and served as the Sunday School Supervisor in 1973. She has also been involved with our annual Greek Food Bazaar for many years. A dedicated member of Philoptochos, Mary served two terms as the 21st President and currently chairs the Memorials (Kolyva) Committee.

Christ and Mary were married in 1956 and have two children. Their son, David, was a member of GOYA and a Sunday School teacher. He and his wife Ann Marie (Zielinski) have a daughter, Jessica, and live in the Reading area. Christ and Mary's daughter, Cassandra, also grew up in and served our church. She and her husband, Nicholas Karamanos, have two daughters, Maria and Amalia. Cassandra is a practicing attorney and lives with her family in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

# PETTIS

**George**
**1908-1970**

**Dorothy (Keller)**
**1912-1977**

Dr. George Pettis was born in Pergamus, Asia Minor in 1908. He was one of the most respected professionals in the history of our community. He graduated from Hahneman Medical College and the University of Iowa. He then began his practice in medicine, specializing in obstetrics and gynecology, in the Reading area. He will always be remembered for delivering so many of the Greek babies of our Church Community for many years.

During World War II, he headed the local effort for Greek War Relief, which collected tons of clothing and thousands of dollars to send to those who suffered in Greece during the war.

Over the years, Dr. Pettis served the Community in other ways, too. While serving as President of the Parish Council in 1952, he was the first to realize that our old Church building at Eighth and Court Streets would prove to be inadequate for the future. Therefore, during that year, he initiated a drive to convince the community that it was time to find a suitable lot and building for the future. Unfortunately, not enough people had his foresight and consequently, his vision for the future was shelved.

He was a member of the Masonic Order and a very active member of the local Chapter of the Order of AHEPA. He also served as President of the Berks County Medical Society and President of the Staff of Doctors at Community General Hospital.

He was married to the former Dorothy Keller. They had two children Penelope and Valerie.

# PHYRILLAS

**Anastasis**
**1929-2013**

**Paraskevi (Kyriakos)**
**1940-**

Anastasis A. Phyrillas was born in Limnia, Famagusta, Cyprus, on December 17, 1929, one of 11 children of Antonis and Theodora Phyrillas.

Anastasis married Paraskevi (Kyriakos) Phyrillas on October 23, 1960, and the couple had three sons, Antonis "Tony", Spyros "Spiro", and Loizos "Louis", all born in Cyprus.

The family immigrated to the United States in September 1969 and settled in Reading, where Anastasis went to work for his brother, Michael, as a painting contractor. Anastasis eventually started his own business, A&A Painting Contractors, in Reading. Anastasis donated his services many times to paint the interior of the Church and the Sunday School rooms. The family later moved to Exeter Township.

Trained in the art of Byzantine chanting at an early age in Cyprus, Anastasis served as a Chanter for our church for 44 years. Metropolitan Maximos bestowed the title of Protopsaltis to Anastasis in 1999 on behalf of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Pittsburgh. Anastasis was also recognized by our church in 2002 as Father of the Year. He was a longtime member of the AHEPA and GAPA in Reading. Anastasis died on August 28, 2013.

Paraskevi Phyrillas was born in Engomi, Cyprus, on November 23,1940, one of five children to Loizos and Eleni Kyriakou.

Paraskevi volunteered for decades in the Loukoumades room at the Greek Food Bazaar and continues to make the Prosforo bread used each Sunday during the Divine Liturgy. She is a member of the Philoptochos.

A resident of Exeter, she enjoys cooking, baking and gardening and spending time with her seven grandchildren.

# PHYRILLAS

**Tony**
**1961-**

**Soula (Happas)**
**1965-**

Tony A. Phyrillas was born in Limnia, Famagusta, Cyprus, on September 24, 1961 to Anastasis and Paraskevi (Kyriakos) Phyrillas. The family immigrated to the United States in September 1969 and settled in Reading. Tony graduated from Reading High School in 1979 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism from Penn State University in 1983.

Tony has spent the past 30 years in the newspaper industry as a reporter and editor, most recently with *The Mercury* in Pottstown, PA, where he is the City Editor. Tony has been a member of the Parish Council since 1995, serving 10 terms as Secretary and 2 terms as President in 2003 and 2004. He has served on numerous church committees over the past 20 years, including the Centennial Celebration Committee. Tony has chaired/co-chaired the Gyro Sandwich Area at the Greek Food Bazaar for the past 20 years. He is the lead teacher in the High School Class in Sunday School. He was a charter member and past treasurer of the Greek School PTO. A 30-year member of the AHEPA, Tony served as chapter President for 11 years. He served on the Mount Penn Borough Council for 2 years and the Central Berks Regional Police Commission for 5 years. He is a past president of the Kiwanis Club of East Penn Valley.

Tony married Chrysoula J. Happas on October 24, 1993, in St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Media, PA. Soula was born on March 19, 1965, in Camden, NJ, to James and Aphrodite (Politarhos) Happas, and grew up in Delaware County. She graduated from Ridley High School in 1983 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Drexel University in 1987. She is employed as a Paraprofessional by the Reading School District. Soula is the lead teacher for the Third/Fourth Grade class in Sunday School and is a member of the Philoptochos. She was active in the Greek School PTO and VBS programs. She volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar and was a member of the Daughters of Penelope in Delaware County.

The couple has two sons: James (Dimitrios), born January 9, 1998, and Patrick (Paraskevas), born April 14, 2000. Both are students at Antietam Junior/Senior High School. Both are members of GOYA, where James is an officer, and both attended VBS. James was in the KEFI Dance Troupe, attended Greek School, and serves in the Altar, where he is a Captain. Both volunteer at the church Food Pantry and the Greek Food Bazaar. James and Patrick have competed in the Oratorical Festival at church for many years.

# PHYRILLAS

**Spiro**
**1963-**

**Margaret (Pappas)**
**1965-**

Spiro Anastasis Phyrillas was born on December 12, 1963 to Anastasis and Paraskevi (Kyriakos) Phyrillas, in Limnia, Famagusta, Cyprus. The family immigrated to the United States in September 1969. Spiro graduated from Exeter Senior High School and attended Pennsylvania State University. He is the owner of European Builders Ltd.

Spiro married Margaret (Pappas) Phyrillas on February 2, 1992, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Media, PA. Margaret was born on August 27, 1965 to Haralambos and Mary (Karoglanis) Pappas, in Chester, PA. She graduated from Ridley High School and earned a Bachelor's Degree from Temple University. She is employed as a reading aide at Owatin Creek Elementary School.

Spiro is a member of the Reading AHEPA chapter, where he is a Past President. He also served on the AHEPA District Lodge as Treasurer and Secretary. Margaret is the GOYA advisor and a member of Philoptochos. She also taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School for many years.

The couple resides in Exeter with their three children: Maria Theodora Phyrillas, born on May 17, 1994, an Exeter Senior High School graduate who attends Penn State University; Anastasis Spiro Phyrillas, born on June 4, 1997, who attends Exeter Senior High School; and Vasilis Spiro Phyrillas, born on November 23, 1999, who attends Exeter Senior High School. Maria was a member of GOYA, where she served as President and Treasurer. She also participated in KEFI Dance Troupe, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Anastasis is a member of GOYA, where he served as President and Vice President. He also participates in the KEFI Dance Troupe, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Oratorical Festival and serves in Altar. Vasilis is a member of GOYA, where he served as Treasurer and Historian. He also participates in the KEFI Dance Troupe, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Oratorical Festival and serves in Altar.

# PHYRILLAS

**Louis**
**1967-**

**Andrea (Soult)**
**1977-**

Loizos "Louis" Phyrillas was born in Famagusta, Cyprus on September 17, 1967, the youngest son of Anastasis and Paraskevi (Kyriakos) Phyrillas. The family immigrated to the United States in September 1969 and settled in Reading, eventually moving to Exeter Township.

Louis graduated from Exeter High School in 1985 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology in 1989 from Penn State University.

Louis married Andrea (Soult) Phyrillas on September 13, 1998.

Andrea was born in Clearfield, PA on May 29, 1977. She is a 1995 honors graduate of Clearfield Area High School, and attended Penn State University, where she studied Education. She was employed in the Pharmacy Department of the Reading Hospital & Medical Center, West Reading for 12 years.

The couple has two children, Theodore Nicholas Phyrillas, age 4, and Marina Gianna Phyrillas, age 1.

Louis is employed by the County of Berks.

He is a member of William Penn Chapter No. 61 Order of AHEPA.

# PLATANOS

**Nicholas**
**1942-**

**Kathryn Anne (Wepsic)**
**1946-**

Nicholas Platanos hails from Mytiline on the island of Lesvos, Greece. He was born to Chrisostomos and Felitsa Platanos on September 1, 1942 and immigrated to the U.S.A. in 1968. He worked as a pizza store owner in New York City, a cook, and a maintenance worker for the Palmer Candy Company for 25 years. Nicholas served as a board member of St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church in Reading and also assisted in maintenance of the church.

Kathryn was born in Sharon, PA on July 16, 1946 to Charles and Esther Wepsic. Kathryn Platanos received her Master's Degree in Nursing and became a Nurse Practitioner, having worked as a school nurse practitioner in the Reading School District. She has been involved as a membership secretary for the Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and as Treasurer of St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church (6 years).

Kathryn Anne was married to Nicholas on August 15, 1969. She was chrismated in the Greek Orthodox church in 1980. Nicholas and Kathryn have a son, Christopher Platanos, age 42, who lives in Madison, CT and works for Alexion Pharmaceuticals as an Associate Director of Global Sales Training and Development. He attended Grove City College, followed by Indiana University for his Master's Degree. At St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church, Christopher participated as an Altar Boy and in the GOYA.

# PLATANOS

**Asimakis "Mikis"** **Despina (Gasparis)**

Despina was born in Reading, PA to Stathis & Virginia (Koumaras) Gasparis. Stathis was born in Andros, Greece and Virginia was born in Reading. Virginia's father, George Koumaras, was from Aghia Paraskevi, Lesvos; her mother, Maria, was from Giavorkio, Asia Minor (near Smyrna, Turkey).

Despina received a BS and MS in Art Education from Kutztown University and also attended Alvernia College for Certification in Elementary Education. She was an art teacher at the Northwest Middle School in the Reading School District until her retirement in 2013. She had prevously taught in the Daniel Boone School District and at LaSalle Academy.

Asimakis was born in Panayiouda, Lesvos, Greece to Chrysostomos & Triantafilia Platanos. He is the youngest of five sons. He was employed by A T & T/Lucent Technologies/Agere until his retirement. He served as a chantor at St. Matthew's, where he also served on the Parish Council for many years.

Despina was raised in a very devout Orthodox family. Growing up in the Church, she was very active in Choir, Sunday School, and Greek School. She learned to play the organ from the Baxewanis sisters (Ann Kraras and Joyce Zervanos). She was an assistant organist at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church where she played for the Junior Choir. She was also the organist at St. Matthew's for over 35 years where she also served a term as secretary on the church board, taught Sunday School, and was a member of Philoptochos. In the late 1960s, Despina played the accordion with The Evzones, a musical band which was formed by her brother, Milton (guitar and bouzouki), her cousins George (clarinet) and Anthony Koumaras (bass guitar), Spyro Sbilis (drummer) and later, Phil Macaronis (drummer). They started playing for fun and eventually, played for many Greek celebrations, such as baptisms and parties. As their repertoire increased, they were hired to play in Lancaster and Camp Hill.

Despina's brother, Milton, and sister, Maria, also were raised as members of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and St. Matthew's before moving out of state.

Asimakis and Despina were married in 1976 at St. Matthew's Greek Orthodox Church. They have four children. Jenna attended Penn State University where she majored in Anthropology and BTI where she earned an Associate Degree as a Medical Assistant; she currently lives in South Korea with her husband, Michael Schmalzer, and son, Kristopher. Christopher attended Penn State University for Business & Marketing and has had training in real estate and computer programs; he is currently living in Boston, MA. Felicia graduated from the Reading Hospital School of Nursing and Alvernia College with a BS in Nursing and is a Registered Nurse; she lives in Exeter Township with her husband, Andrew Walk. Stathi graduated from Liberty University with a degree in Psychology and is currently pursuing a Masters Degree; he lives in Lynchburg, VA with his wife, Lauren (Umstead).

All four of the children participated in youth programs at both Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and St. Matthew's. At St. Matthew's, they attended Sunday School; Christopher and Stathi were altar boys; Jenna and Felicia were in the choir. At Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, they attended Greek School and participated in the GOYA and summer Bible Camps. Asimakis and Christopher went to Mexico twice for a week to participate in building a home for the local families.

Asimakis and Despina have a grandson, Kristopher, and are looking forward to many more.

## POLYAK

**James**
**1966-**

**Fani (Sotos)**
**1966-**

Fani was born in Reading, PA and has been an active member of the Church, serving as a Sunday School Teacher for several years. Fani graduated from Penn State University and is a Registered Dietitian.

James was born in Coronado, CA and works as an attorney. James and Fani have two children; Evan (13) and Alexia (9). They currently live in Wyomissing, PA.

# PORCARO

**Nicholas**
**1925-**

**Victoria (Hatzas)**
**1926-**

Victoria and Nicholas were both born in Reading. Victoria's parents, Efthimios and Helen migrated to the United States around 1920.

Victoria graduated from Reading High School, then enrolled in the Bayland Institute of Cosmetology and was a beautician in Reading for many years.

Nicholas joined the Air Force during WWII serving as a flight engineer and bombardier flying 25 missions over Europe during WWII. After the war ended in 1945, Nicholas left the Air Force as a Tech Sargeant and married Victoria. He was a successful businessman after the war entering into a partnership in the Green Acres Golf course and had a fast food restaurant (The Kwick Shoppe) in Shoemakersville. The Kwick Shoppe is still operated by his two sons.

Victoria and Nick are the parents of four children. Elaine graduated from the University of Wisconsin and went on to obtain a Master's Degree from the University of Bridgeport. Nicholas graduated from Ithaca College then went on to earn a Master's Degree from John Hopkins University. Dean graduated from the University of North Carolina. Michelle graduated from Ithaca College and earned a Master's Degree.

Victoria was a member of the church choir for many years and was a member of the Philoptochos Society. She works every year preparing pastries for the church's annual bazaar.

She is easily recognizable in church. She and her sister still wear beautiful hats to church every week.

# PORCARO

**Nicholas**
**1953-**

**Marian (Dalaveris)**
**1959-**

Nicholas and Marian (Dalaveris) were both born in Reading, Pennsylvania. Nicholas attended Ricker College. Marian attended Allentown Business School.

Nick and Marian own and operate a restaurant in Shoemakersville. They have three children, Niko, Alexa, and Christopher.

Marion serves the Church as a Sunday School teacher, a member of Philoptochos and Opportunity House & Food Pantry volunteer. Marion is active in the community serving on the Boy School committee, as Hamburg School District Chairperson for various teacher/parent committees, as a fundraising installation coordinator for Perry Elementary playground. Nicholas is a Youth Soccer League coach.

## PROFIT

**Timothy**
**1981-**

**Jennifer (Rogers)**
**1980-**

Jennifer is the daughter of Gary and Susan Rogers. Susan's maiden name was Johnson, the name given to Jennifer's PaPou by officials at Ellis Island when he migrated to the United States from Cyprus in 1926. The Rogers had three children: Jennifer, Christina, and Stephanie.

Jennifer and Timothy were married on July 11, 2010. They have a two-year-old son, Timothy.

Jennifer graduated from Kutztown University and continues her education at Bloomsburg University receiving her Master's Degree in special education in 2003. She taught in the Wilson School District for 10 years, resigning her position in order to stay at home to raise their son, Timothy. Her husband Tim is the General Manager of Savage Sixty One, located on Route 61.

Jennifer was very active in our church over the years, serving as a Sunday School Teacher for eight years and a very active member of GOYA becoming president of GOYA in 1991.

# PSAROS

**George**
**1928-2008**

**Helen (Arnidis)**
**1928-2014**

Helen, born 1928 in Reading, was the daughter of Constantine and Marianthi (Fotiou) Arnidis, with roots in Mytilene, Istanbul, and Chios. Siblings include Niki Kousoulides and James, both deceased, and Fotios, of Reading. She attended Greek School and was a church organist. A Reading High School graduate, she excelled academically, enjoying yearbook staff, sports, and school play roles. Tall and attractive, she was urged to enter the Miss Reading Fair Contest, a sure-to-be winner, but her father nixed this idea because she would have to appear in a bathing suit!

In 1953 she married George J. Psaros, with George Fotiou as Koumbaro and the Rev. James Aloupis presiding, then moved to Allentown. George, born 1928, the only child of James and Ourania Psaros, with roots in Filia, Mytilene, was a Slatington High School graduate, worked in his parents' soda fountain and candy store, then became an Allentown Radio DJ. Soon, the couple's plans were fixed on the Big Apple. Helen lived in the NYC Barbizon Hotel For Women while job-hunting, returning home on weekends.

After landing a CBS typing job, George joined her, took NYU broadcast courses, becoming a CBS editing-censoring manager. Helen attended Hunter College. By the mid-60s, Helen worked as 1st Executive Assistant to the VP of CBS Corporate Affairs, loved Manhattan's cultural offerings, and exercised with Carol Burnette! The couple maintained a NYC condo, an Allentown home, and traveled extensively in the USA and Europe. Active at St. Nicholas Bethlehem GOC, George was a Church Board member and AHEPA President; Helen twice served as Daughters of Penelope President; both were Senior Group and Bazaar Committee members and godparents to Chris Fecera and Ty Petrakis. After George's 2008 passing, Helen returned to Reading. Following a valiant battle with Alzheimers, she passed away in 2014. She is also survived by nieces Connie Fecera and Cynthia Petrakis, and nephew James Arnidis, Jr.

# RADWANSKI

**Justin**
**1977-**

**Vicky (Kolocouris)**
**1977-**

Justin Radwanski was born in Reading on January 11, 1977 to Ross and Christine Radwanski. He graduated from Governor Mifflin High School in 1995, and earned an Associate's Degree in Architectural Drafting & Design and a Bachelor's Degree in Project Management from the California University of Pennsylvania in 2000.

After working for the family construction company for several years, he started his own concrete company in June 2004 and is currently the owner of Solution Concrete Inc.

Vicky was born in Greensburg, PA on November 9, 1977 to Sotirios and Irene Kolocouris, who currently reside in North Huntingdon, PA. Sotirios was born in Corinthos, Greece, and came to the United States in 1965. Irene was born in Greensburg, PA, and her parents were both born in Crete, Greece.

Vicky graduated from Norwin High School in 1995, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary and Special Education from California University of Pennsylvania in 2000. She is currently employed as a third-grade teacher at Cumru Elementary School for Governor Mifflin School District.

Vicky is a Sunday School teacher for first and second grade, and has assisted with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Justin and Vicky were married in Pittsburgh on July 19, 2003.

The Radwanskis, who reside in Mohnton, have three children: Jonathan, age 10, Nathan, age 7 both of whom attend Cumru Elementary School, and Eliana, age 7 months.

# REBER

**Debra A.**
**1957-**

Debra was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1957 to James Reber and Patricia (Lecatsas) Zampelli. Her grandparents were Stanley and Mollie Lecatsas. Her grandfather immigrated to the United States from Mytilene. She graduated from Reading High School. She currently works for Barrer and White Orthodontists as a Treatment Coordinator.

Debra has been involved in church activities since her childhood. She attended Sunday school. She is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She has been the co-chair of the Taverna room at our church bazaar for several years. She has worked tirelessly in this position to serve the customers who frequent the room.

She has a brother Jase, who is married to Susan and lives in Virginia. She has a son Brandon, who is engaged to Kristen Harvey. She is very proud of her two grandchildren: Ryder Spinka and Jackson Spinka.

# RECHIERU

**Adrian**
**1959-**

**Iulica**
**1962-**

Adrian Rechieru was born in Romania on August 9, 1959 and Iulica was born in Romania on May 30, 1962. They immigrated to the United States in 1992, and have been members of our church since 1996.

Adrian and Iulica have two children, Silviu and Samantha.

Adrian is a graduate of Berks Technical Institute, with a degree in Computer Programming. He works as a Field Inspector.

Adrian and Iulica currently reside in Reading, PA.

# RENTOS

**George**
**1890-1959**

**Stavroula (Mbliamblias)**
**1901-1995**

George Rentos was born in Atsiki, Lemnos, Greece on June 22, 1890. He immigrated to America on March 2, 1915 and lived for several years in New York City. Stavroula (Mbliamblias) Rentos was born on August 29, 1901 in Karpasi, Lemnos. In 1926, George returned to Greece to marry Stavroula, after which the couple returned to America and lived in New York, where their first child was born. Eventually, they settled in Reading, where George found work at American Chain & Cable Co. The couple had three children: Evangeline, Peter, and Molly.

Evangeline, born in 1927, graduated from Reading High School and married Charles Billys. They had one son, Michael, who has a PhD in Education, and one daughter, Stephanie, who is a flight attendant with Delta Airlines.

Peter "Pantelis" Rentos was born in 1929 and graduated from the University of Iowa, where he received a PhD in Occupational Health. Dr. Rentos and his wife had two sons, George and Michael. George is an accountant in Clearwater, Florida.

Molly, born in 1931, graduated from Reading High School and was employed at AT&T until her retirement. She married Gerald Kramer and had two children. Her daughter, Cheryl (Kramer) Zabrecchi, earned a Master's in Education from Kutztown University and is an art teacher in the Spring Ford School District. She has two daughters, Lauren and Lindsey. Molly's son, John Kramer, holds a Master's in Education from Alvernia College and is an instructor in the electric shop at Stevens University. He and his wife, Donna, have two children, James and Nicole.

The Rentos family members were active in the Church, where the women participated in many Philoptochos activities, and the men joined AHEPA.

# RICHART

**Stephen D.**
**1957-**

**Cynthia S. (Kontaxes)**
**1958-**

Stephen was born in Sommerville, New Jersey on August 21, 1957. He went to Drexel University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Drexel University. Stephen is a Mechanical Engineer.

Cynthia was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on August 23, 1958.

Stephen and Cynthia have two children. Alexandria N. is 29 years old. She graduated from Penn State University and Cambridge. Andrew S. is 27 years old. He graduated from Penn State University.

# ROGERS

**Gary W.**
**1951-**

**Susan (Johnson)**
**1951-**

Gary, the son of Theresa and William Rogers, was born in Kankakee, Illinois in March 1951. Of English and French Canadian descent, he grew up in California and graduated from Thousand Oaks High School in 1969. Gary earned a B.S. degree from the University of Delaware in 1973 and an MBA from Wilmington University in 1983. His professional career included a position with the Reading Hospital & Medical Center as Hospital Administrator. Subsequently, Gary founded his own business, GWR Personnel Resources, Inc., providing hospital staffing and consulting services. He is currently enjoying retirement.

Susan (baptized Sophia) was born in New York City in January 1951, the daughter of the late John and Helen Johnson. Susan's Greek heritage descends from Piraeus, Greece through her mother and from Kalavasos, Cyprus through her father. She grew up in Orange, New Jersey, where she attended Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and was active in Sunday School and GOYA. She graduated from Orange High School in 1968 and later from Brandywine Junior College. When her husband started his own business, Susan assumed the accounting responsibilities.

An active parishioner, Susan is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and the leader of the Sunday Greeters. Susan, Gary and their daughters are dedicated workers for the Church's monthly Food Pantry. Within the community, Susan and Gary do volunteer work for the Bethany Children's Home.

Gary and Susan were married in July 1973 and are the proud parents of three daughters: Jennifer, the wife of Timothy Profit, Stephanie, and Christina. They are also blessed with a grandson, Timothy Jr. "T.J.".

# ROGERS

**Christina Sophia**
**1987-**

Christina Sophia Rogers was born on January 29, 1987 in Reading to Susan (Johnson) and Gary Rogers.

Christina graduated from Wilson High School in 2005, and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary and Special Education from Kutztown University in 2009, and a Master's Degree in Secondary Curriculum and Instruction with Supervisory Certificate from Kutztown University in 2013.

A resident of Sinking Spring, she has been employed as a Special Education Teacher in the Boyertown Area School District for the past five years.

Christina participated in GOYA and Vacation Bible School in church and she volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar.

# ROHM

**James**
**1948-**

**Kathy (Sianis)**
**1952-**

Jim was born in West Reading, Pennsylvania on February 20, 1948, the son of Evelyn and James Rohm. After graduating from Wilson High School in 1966, Jim attended North Dakota State University where he earned a B.S. in Health and Physical Education in 1970. Subsequently, he also received a Master's equivalency from Penn State University. Jim worked as a Physical Education teacher for the Palisades School District in Kintnersville, Pennsylvania for 28 years. He is now enjoying retirement.

Kathy, the daughter of Christ and Mary Sianis, was born in West Reading, Pennsylvania on September 9, 1952. Kathy graduated from Wilson High School in 1970 and attended Kutztown University. She is currently employed by the Wyomissing School District, where she works in the Autistic Support classroom.

Kathy and Jim are both active members of our parish. Kathy is a Sunday School teacher and a longtime member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, where she currently serves on the Board of Directors. She is also a past member of the Church Choir. Jim is a dedicated member of the altar care team and helps in the kitchen for our Annual Food Bazaar and other events. He is also a member of the William Penn Chapter, Order of AHEPA, and of the Odd Fellows. Kathy and Jim were both GOYA advisors while they were raising their children.

Jim and Kathy were married in our church in 1972, and Jim was later chrismated here in 1989. They are the proud parents of two children, Elizabeth and John. They are also blessed with four wonderful grandchildren.

# ROHM

**John**
**1978-**

**Megan (Douglass)**
**1978-**

John, the son of Jim and Kathy Rohm, was born in Sellersville, Pennsylvania on July 15, 1978. He graduated from Shippensburg University with a B.S. in Education. Subsequently, John received a Master's in Education from Alvernia University. John teaches government classes at Conrad Weiser High School.

Megan was born in York, Pennsylvania on October 26, 1978. She graduated from Albright College with a B.S. in Education and subsequently received a Master's in Education from Wilkes University. Megan is a learning support teacher in the Hempfield School District.

John and Megan were married on July 17, 2004 and are members of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. John is also a member of the William Penn Chapter, Order of AHEPA. They are the parents of two children, Nikolas, age 8 and Christina, age 5, who both attend Sunday School.

# ROSS

**David**
**1971-**

**Etleva (Koci)**
**1977-**

Etleva "Eva" was born in Berat, Albania on October 22, 1977, the daughter of Viktor and Emliha Koci. Eva immigrated to the United States in 1998 after winning the Diversity Visa lottery. Her parents followed in 2000 to be close to their daughter. Eva has a sister, Armela, who resides with her family in Thessaloniki, Greece. Eva graduated from Penn State University with a B.S. in Information Systems & Technology and is currently employed as an IT Manager for Accenture.

David, the son of Arthur and Linda Ross, was born in Miami, Florida in December 1971. After graduating from high school in Miami, David received an Associate's degree in HVAC. He is employed as an HVAC technician with US Facilities.

Eva and David were married in 2000 and have two wonderful children: Ethan, age 8, who is an altar boy, and Joshua, age 5. The family are active members of our Church parish, where the boys both attend Sunday School and Ethan serves as an altar boy. Eva is an active member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and volunteers each year to dye Easter eggs for the parish. She is also a member of the Albanian Women of Philadelphia.

# SALAKOS

**Nicholas**
**1921-2011**

**Theano (Patsourakos)**
**1919-1995**

Nicholas "Nick" Salakos was born in New Jersey on September 19, 1921, the son of James and Marika Salakos. His family immigrated to the United States from Mavro Vouni (Mani), Greece prior to his birth. After graduating from high school in New Jersey, Nick attended technical school.

During World War II, Nick served in the U.S. Army as a radio man and tail gunner of a B25 Mitchell bomber in the Pacific campaign. Subsequently, he found work as a tool and die maker for Textile Machine Works, then Rockwell International, where he remained employed until his retirement. In our church, Nick was a distinguished member of our Parish Council, serving as President in 1966, as Vice President in 1972, and as Financial Secretary in 1961.

Theano was born on April 23, 1919 in Reading, PA to Spiros and Maria Patsourakos. Her family was originally from Gythion, Pelopenese, and returned to Konakia, Greece in 1921. They eventually came back to the United States in 1927. Theano attended the Reading public schools, graduated from beauty school, and was employed for many years as a beautician and hair stylist. As a parishioner, Theano served as a Sunday School teacher, member of Philoptochos, and pastry baker. Her recipe for koulourakia is still used today by our baking ladies.

Nick and Theano were married in 1946. After a long illness, Theano passed away in 1995, and Nick passed away in 2011.

# SARFERT

**Carl**
**1936-**

**Julia (Dracoules)**
**1937-2015**

Carl was born in Philadelphia, PA in 1936. He is a graduate of Wilson High School and Albright College, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics. Julia was born in 1937 in Reading, PA. She is a graduate of West Reading High School. Carl and Julia were married in 1959.

Carl worked as the Marketing Manager for Lucent Technologies in Reading and Allentown for thirty years, retiring in 1989. One year prior to retirement, he and Julia became co-owners of Julie's Hallmark Stores, which expanded to three locations in Exeter, Spring Township and Wyomissing. They have retired from this business after twenty-five years.

Carl was active in the Boy Scouts of America, serving as Chairman of the Whitfield Boy Scout Committee. He was also active in the Van Reed football and basketball programs.

Julia served as a Sunday School teacher at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church for several years. She also was the President of the Junior Women's Club of Berks County and the West Reading Women's Club. She was a member of the PEO organization of Reading and the Villages in Florida. She was also a board member of the Berks County Easter Seal Society.

Julia and Carl are the proud parents of two wonderful children, Christi Baer and James Sarfert. Christi attended East Stroudsburg University, and James graduated from the United States Naval Academy. Carl and Julia are blessed with four granddaughters, Nicole, Samantha, Elenore, and Kathryn; one grandson, Joshua; and two great granddaughters, Peyton and Kendall.

Carl and Julia have been living in Florida and Wernersville. Julia passed away on May 29, 2015.

May her memory be eternal.

# SASARAN

**Nicolae**
**1950-**

**Ana**
**1950-**

Nicolae Sasaran was born on December 5, 1950 in Baia Mare, Romania, and immigrated to the United States on July 26, 1989. He graduated from technical vocational school in Romania and works as a general laborer for Can Corporation of America in Reading, PA.

Nicolae brought his wife, Ana, and youngest son, Calin, to the United States in 1997.

Ana Sasaran was born on March 19, 1950 in Baia Mare, Romania, where she completed high school.

Nicolae and Ana were married May 12, 1973 in Romania. The couple now resides in Sinking Spring, PA. Ana works as a sales associate for Burlington Coat Factory in Reading.

They have two adult sons. Gabriel Sasaran lives in Romania with his wife Cerasela and two daughters Maria, age 10, and Teodora, age 6. Gabriel graduated from the University Cluj-Napoca, in Romania, and is in the process of coming here to the U.S. to live. Their youngest son, Calin Sasaran, graduated from Penn State University, and lives in Sinking Spring, PA with his wife, Crina, and their two sons.

# SASARAN

**Calin**
**1980-**

**Crina (Bozantan)**
**1981-**

Calin Sasaran was born in Baia, Romania on April 29, 1980 to Nicolae and Ana Sasaran, who currently reside in Sinking Spring. He came to the United States in 1997 and graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business. He is currently employed as a manager by Amazon.com.

Calin married Crina (Bozantan) Sasaran in Romania on June 22, 2003.

Crina was born in Baia, Romania on March 28, 1981 to Alexander and Elena Bozantan, who are still living in Romania.

She came to the United States in 2004 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry from Albright College. She is currently employed as a chemist for Bayer Healthcare in Myerstown, Lebanon County.

Calin is a member of the Reading AHEPA Chapter and helps in the kitchen during the Greek Food Bazaar. Crina is a member of the Philoptochos, an aide in Sunday School, and also volunteers at the Bazaar.

The Sasarans, who reside in Sinking Spring, have two children, Christopher, age 8, who attends Whitfield Elementary School, and Alexander, age 4. Christopher serves in the Altar.

# SAVADELIS

**Ignatius**
**1919-2003**

**Katherine (Arones)**
**1921-**

Ignatius "Nate" Savadelis, the son of Efstratios and Marianthi (Kameno) Savadelis, was born in New Jersey in 1919. Nate had one sister, Catherine, now deceased. Following high school graduation, Nate attended the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, where he earned a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1942. He continued his education, receiving a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Penn State University in 1952. His excellent credentials led him to a professional career with AT&T Bell Labs, first in Allentown and later in Reading when the labs were relocated.

Katherine "Kyriakoula" was born on June 23, 1921 in Newark, New Jersey, one of the three children of George and Chryssoula Yeakos. After the early passing of their parents, Kathy and her sister Helen were adopted by their aunt and uncle, Dimitri and Kalomera Arones. Kathy worked hard in her father's ice cream shop both during and after high school. She graduated from Kearney High School in Kearney, New Jersey. After graduation, Kathy worked in the offices of Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Nate and Katherine were married in St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Newark. When Nate was transferred to the Reading area in 1958, they built a home and moved to Wyomissing. The family was very happy in their new surroundings and joined Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, where they quickly became involved in parish life. Kathy joined Philoptochos and participated in all of the philanthropic activities, including fundraising to help pay for the new Church building. Nate was also active and helped where he was needed. He joined the Order of AHEPA and the men's club.

Nate joined his parents in Heaven on May 8, 2003, leaving a legacy of four caring children: Charles Ignatius, born November 18, 1950 and married to Jewel Gelband; James George, born August 30, 1953 and married to Shirley Dunford; Andrew Peter, born August 24, 1957 and married to Judith Kauffman; Mary Ann, born December 17, 1963 and married to John Robert Agre. Nate and Katherine were also blessed with seven grandchildren: Mary Elizabeth, Nicholas Peter, Andrea Judith, Alyssa Kyriaki, Alexander Ignatius, Steven Lewis, and Aleka Alexandra, as well as one great grandchild, Camryn.

# SAVADELIS

**Charles "Chuck"**
**1950-**

**Jewel (Gelband)**
**1952-**

Charles Savadelis was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on November 18, 1950, and baptized at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Newark. He is the first of four children born to Nate and Katherine Savadelis. After the family moved to Wyomissing in 1958 and joined Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church while it was still located in downtown Reading, Chuck served as an altar boy and acolyte. At the age of 12, Chuck traveled to Greece with a Greek Orthodox youth group aboard an ocean liner, the *Queen Frederika.* As a teenager, he was a member of the GOYA.

Chuck met his future wife, Jewel Gelband, at Penn State University, where they both earned their Bachelor's degrees. They married on June 23, 1974 and moved to the Washington, D.C. area, where Chuck managed a microfilm concern before becoming a professional photographer, and Jewel worked at Mitre Corp and TRW, two think tanks.

In 1981, Chuck and Jewel moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where Jewel attended Harvard Business School and earned her MBA. Chuck became Director of Photography at Northeastern University. The pair then moved to Silicon Valley, where Jewel served as Director of Marketing at Atari, and Chuck resumed his career as a professional photographer. In 2002, they formed Savadelis Films, where they produce award-winning films and videos for clients across the United States. Jewel is also a consultant and presentation coach to Silicon Valley businesses and the venture capital community.

Chuck and Jewel presently reside in Sunnyvale, California with their pet tortoise, Gromit, and two energetic kittens, Hunter and Sundance.

# SAVADELIS

**James**
**1953-**

**Shirley (Dunford)**
**1958-**

Jim Savadelis was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania on August 30, 1953, and was baptized at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Bethlehem. He is the second of the four children born to Nate and Kathy Savadelis. After the family moved to Wyomissing in 1958 and joined our Church, Jim served as an altar boy and acolyte. As a teenager, Jim was also a member of the GOYA and of his high school wrestling team.

Jim met Shirley Dunford, a graduate of Winthrop University, in Greenville, South Carolina. They married on July 26, 1986 and settled in the Atlanta metropolitan area, where Jim founded an insurance agency and earned a pilot's license. Shirley is employed as a respiratory therapist at Grady Memorial Hospital which subsequently merged with Emory University. Shirley also sang with the renowned Atlanta Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Robert Shaw.

Jim and Shirley are the proud parents of Elizabeth and Nicholas. Elizabeth graduated from the University of Georgia in 2011 with a B.A. in Journalism and Public Relations. She is currently the Manager of Corporate Communications at Delta Airlines in Atlanta. Nicholas was an elite junior national cyclist in high school. He is a certified Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and firefighter in Gwinnett County, Georgia. In December 2013, Nick proposed to Molly Riggs, and the couple plan to marry in 2015. Molly graduated with a B.S. in Biology from the University of Georgia in 2013 and has been accepted into the graduate program.

Jim and Shirley presently reside with their dog, Riley, in Suwanee, Georgia, and are doting grandparents to their granddaughter, Camryn.

# SAVADELIS

**Andrew Peter**
**1957-**

Andrew Peter Savadelis was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania on August 24, 1957. He is the third of the four children born to Nate and Kathy Savadelis. Andrew grew up in Wyomissing, where the family moved in 1958. Andrew served as an altar boy and acolyte at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and received the Alpha Omega Orthodox Christian award. He also earned his Eagle Scout with bronze palm.

After high school graduation, Andrew attended Albright College where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree, followed by an MBA from the Cornell University Johnson Graduate School of Management. He worked for Bristol-Myers Squibb in New York City in various financial management capacities and is currently Chief Financial Officer for technology and biotechnology firms specializing in turnaround and growth stage companies, and also serves as a board member.

Andrew is a volunteer firefighter, starting his career as a junior firefighter at the Wyomissing Fire Department. He currently serves as a fully licensed and qualified firefighter for the Montgomery Volunteer Fire Company #1 in Belle Mead, New Jersey.

Currently residing in the Princeton, New Jersey, area, Andrew is the proud father of three children. Andrea earned a Bachelor's degree from Gettysburg College and a Master's in Education from the College of New Jersey. She is a high school history and psychology teacher in Tennessee. Alyssa earned her Bachelor's degree from Case Western Reserve University and is a researcher at the University Hospitals of Cleveland. Following in his grandfather's and uncle's footsteps, Alexander is attending Penn State University where he is studying aerospace engineering.

## SAVADELIS/AGRE

**John**
**1963-**

**Maryann (Savadelis)**
**1963-**

MaryAnn was born in Reading in 1963 to Ignatios and Kathy Savadelis. She grew up in the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church community along with her three brothers, Charles, James, and Andrew. She is a graduate of Wyomissing Area High School and Vanderbilt University.

John, a Northwestern graduate, met MaryAnn at Cornell University where they both earned MBAs. Soon after, they were married in the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, and they moved to Singapore.

Their son, Steven, was born in Singapore in 1995, and was baptized at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Chruch. The family then moved to Weston, Massachusetts where their daughter Aleka was born in 1998.

John has turned a lifelong passion for coin collecting into a business, Coin Rarities Online. CRO deals in museum quality collectible coins. MaryAnn is a co-owner and provides back-office support for the business.

# SCAROS

**Constantinos**
**1878-1922**

**Maria "Marigo" (Alexiadis)**
**1881-1959**

The patriarch of the Scaros Family was Constantinos Ioannis Scaros (1878-1922) born on the Greek island of Symi. Seven Scaros siblings, all born in the small village of Nikia on the nearby island of Nisyros, and all of whom except one immigrated to America, eventually established families in New York City that provided their new country with teachers, university professors, attorneys, entrepreneurs, businessmen, and physicians. One of those families moved to Pennsylvania and is part of the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church parish in Reading.

As a young man, Constantinos traveled to Rhodes to study. He showed such an aptitude for writing and scholarship that the Archdiocese of Rhodes persuaded him to accept a teaching position on Nisyros in preparation for higher advancement.

While teaching at the small school in Nikia, Constantinos met Maria "Marigo" Alexiadis (1881-1959). They were married in 1902 and had seven children: John (1903-1968), Spyros (1906-1991), Irene (1909-1988), Emmanuel (1910-2003), Emilios (1912-1984), Sevasti (1914-2007), and Epaminondas (1919-1981).

Later in life, Constantinos became a merchant, establishing three stores that sold food and other supplies, at Nisyros' then-bustling Southern port of Avlaki. The stores, adjacent with one leading into the other, were a very primitive version of a shopping mall.

Constantinos died at the young age of 43, survived by his wife and seven children. All of the Scaros siblings immigrated to the United States except for Spyros, who lived in Greece his whole life. His marriage of ten years ended in divorce, with no children.

# SCAROS

**John**
**1903-1968**

**Irene**
**1909-1988**

**Emmanuel**
**1910-2003**

**Emilios**
**1912-1984**

**Sevasti**
**1914-2007**

**Epaminondas**
**1919-1981**

ABOVE LEFT: *The wedding of Sevasti Scaros and Milton Blake (Mavrides) in 1951.* Back Row: *Nicholas Michalos, Irene (Scaros) Michalos, Mary Michalos (Palividas), John Scaros, Milton Blake, Sevasti (Scaros) Blake, Sybil Michalos (Condulis), Irene Scaros, Emilios Scaros, Emmanuel Scaros, and Epaminondas Scaros.* Front Row: *Alexandria Michalos (Morrissey), Connie Michalos, Constantine Scaros, and Popy Scaros (Guarente).* ABOVE RIGHT: *The graduation photo of Emmanuel "Manos" Scaros.*

John arrived in America, in New York City, at 16, in 1920 sent by his father to study. Soon thereafter, however, Constantinos died, leaving his six children in Nikia fatherless. John remained in New York and worked to support his widowed mother and siblings. He married Despina Hatzopoulos and they had one daughter, Jeannette, who lives in Virginia. Despina died in 1983.

Irene married Nicholas Michalos, also a native of Nikia, in 1927. They settled in New York and had four daughters: Mary, Sybil, Alexandria ("Sandy"), and Constantina ("Connie"), and a total of eleven grandchildren. Nicholas died in 1972, Irene in 1988, Sandy in 1990, Sybil in 1993, and Mary in 2012. Connie lives in Houston, TX.

Emilios came to the U.S. in 1938, and in 1944 he married Irene Xanthoudis, of New York City. They had three children: Constantine ("Dean"), Calliope ("Popy"), and Maria, and six grandchildren. Popy died in 2000. Dean lives in New York and Maria lives in Connecticut.

Sevasti and Epaminondas both arrived in New York in 1948. She became the first female Nisyrian to travel to the U.S. by airplane. She married Milton Blake (the surname Americanized from "Mavrides"), of Constantinople in 1951 and had one son, Thomas ("Tom"), in 1953, and three grandchildren. Milton died in 1981. Tom lives in New Jersey. Epaminondas married Maria Martzoukos in 1960. They had three daughters: Argyro, Irene, and Constantina ("Connie"), and six grandchildren. Epaminondas died in 1981. Maria, Argyro, and Connie live in Athens. Irene lives in New York.

Emmanuel "Manos" came to the U.S. in 1946. He enrolled in Columbia University's Teacher's College, where he earned a M.Ed., becoming the first person born in Nikia, and possibly all of Nisyros, to graduate from an American university. In 1964, he returned to Greece and married Anthousa "Anthoula" Paschalides (b. 1932), also of Nikia. Their only child, Constantinos ("Dino"), was born in New York City in 1965. Manos died in 2003 in New Jersey.

# SCAROS

**Constantinos**
**1965-**

**Anna (Skamangas)**
**1969-**

LEFT: *The wedding of Constantinos Emmanuel Scaros ("Dino") and Anna Skamangas on May 30, 2009 in Lancaster, PA.* L-R: *Emmanuel Skamangas, Despina Skamangas, Anna Skamangas-Scaros, Constantinos E. Scaros, and Anthousa Scaros.* MIDDLE: *Anthoula Despina Scaros ("Ally"), born in 2010 in Lititz, PA.*

RIGHT: **The Scaros Family in 2014.** Back row, L-R: *Amanda Blake, Michael Blake, Rob Altman, Gabriel Guarente, Emily Scaros (Altman), Alexander Scaros, Laura Condulis, Barbara Scaros, Thomas Condulis, Dr. Nicholas Morrissey, Constantinos E. Scaros (b. 1965), Anna Scaros, Rena Morrissey, Katie Condulis, Lee Ann Finno, Connie Blake, Nicholas Blake, Nino Martino, and Ed Finno.* Front row, L-R: *Angela Blake, Maria Scaros (b. 1953), Dr. Constantine E. Scaros (b. 1945), Thomas Blake (b. 1953), Dr. Nicholas Condulis, and Brittany Goble.*

Within a few years after Manos died in 2003, the Scaros Family spread its wings and traveled west, to Pennsylvania. On May 30, 2009, Dino married Anna Skamangas, originally of McKeesport (a suburb of Pittsburgh), PA, who had settled in Schaefferstown, a village in Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, in Central PA. They were married in the Church of the Annunciation in Lancaster.

Dino and Anna bought a house together in Schaefferstown and Dino's mother, Anthoula, joined them. Soon thereafter, they discovered a community even closer to their home – the parish of Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, in Reading. In 2010, Dino and Anna welcomed the birth of their daughter, Anthoula "Ally" Despina Scaros. She was baptized at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in 2011.

In 2014, Anna's parents, Emmanuel and Despina Skamangas, bought a house in Schaefferstown and relocated there from McKeesport.

Dino spent many years as a college dean and professor, and also as an attorney, in New York City. Currently, he serves as Executive Editor of *The National Herald* and teaches for two colleges. He is also the author of six books. Anna is an Early Childhood Education professional, developing and conducting trainings for Luthercare, an organization based in Lititz, PA. She also teaches college courses pertaining to early childhood education, and is owner of The Baklava Goddess pastry business, which has won the Gallo Award for Best Baked Good. Little Ally started preschool last fall (2014).

# SEIBERT

**Allen**
**1947-**

**Susan (Eckenroth)**
**1950-**

Allen was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on August 30, 1947. He graduated from Reading High School. Allen retired from GAF Corporation.

Susan was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on December 15, 1950. She graduated from Reading High School. Susan works at Cardiac Associates of West Reading.

Allen converted to Orthodoxy in 2002. He is a member of the William Penn AHEPA Chapter 61. Allen is an active helper with the Philoptochos and Church Bazaar baking dates. He helps during the church Bazaar and at the Opportunity House Shelter.

Susan converted to Orthodoxy in 1999. She is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and was a member of the board. She is a former member of the 2nd Choir.

Allen and Susan are the parents of two children: Valerie and Derrick. They are also the grandparents of five grandchildren: Devin, Alexandra, Stergios, Nyle, Antonia and Nalia. Alexandra and Stergios were recipients of the Order Of AHEPA scholarship awards.

# SHAEFFER

**Peter**
**1953-**

**Christine (Petrakes)**
**1956-**

Peter was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on December 1, 1953. He graduated from Wilson High School and attended Berks Vo-tech School for printing. Peter has been employed by Boscov's Department Store for forty years working at the Distribution Center. He married Christine on October 2, 1988.

Christine was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on December 20, 1956. She is the daughter of James and Rita (Magdalinos) Petrakes. Christine graduated from Wilson High School. She has been employed by Boscov's Department Store for forty years as a sales/stock clerk. Christine's grandparents immigrated to the United States from Asia Minor, Ploumari, Mytilene and from Kos.

Christine, as a child, attended Sunday school, Greek school and was a member of GOYA. She is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society where she was a board member for four years. Christine, while on the board, helped arrange speakers for the monthly meetings as well as arranging the Christmas and June Dinners. She has helped during the Bazaar since a child, first helping to clean off tables in the dining room of our old church and then slowly graduated to helping serve the salads and sodas. She has been working in the serving line since her early years.

# SHUNK

**Kim Bryant**
**1951-**

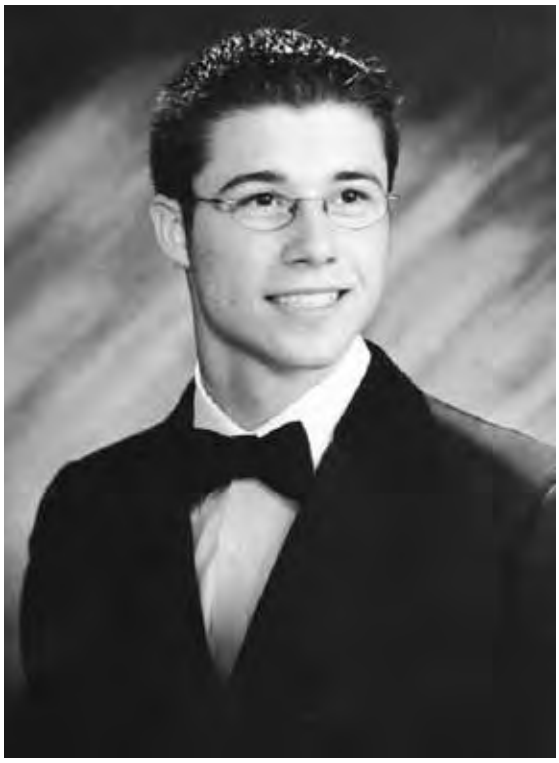
**Elaine Maria (McGowan)**
**1954-**

Kim, born 1951 in Reading, to Donald and Theresa Shunk, earned a Penn State BS in Business, was VP of the Organization of Town Independent Students and a Skull & Bones Men's Honor Society member. Kim was a GOYA advisor, chaired the church picnic and Gyro Festival, and in 1990 was chrismated Anastasis. He is on the Boscov's management team.

Kim, an Ahepan, is on the Parish Council, social, bazaar, shade tree, and centennial committees, volunteers for the Food Bank, kitchen crew, & was in YAL. Kim serves on the Mt. Penn Board of Health, was a Mt. Penn Soccer Club coach and Board member, and was a Boy Scout helper.

Wife, Elaine Maria, was born 1954 in Reading to Robert and Evangeline (Katzos) McGowan, with roots in Asia minor. She earned a Kutztown University BS in Elementary Ed and Early Childhood Development, and is a teacher. She was a Girl Scout Leader and Antietam PTL member. The couple married in 1981 and reside in Mt. Penn.

Elaine is a member of the bazaar, social, and Centennial committees, was in YAL, is in AGLOW, Philoptohos, is a fellowship server, and is an aide in the children's library. She was a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, was in Jr. Choir, attended Sunday School, GOYA, and was a GOYA Advisor. The couple has 3 grown children: Maria, (wife of Cory Kriebel), Bryant William, and Evangelia Julia.



# SHUNK

**Bryant William**
**1985-**

Bryant was born in 1985 in Reading to Kim and Elaine (McGowan) Shunk. He was chrismated Vasilious in 1985 and through his grandmother Evangeline McGowan, has roots in Asia Minor. He resides in Reading, working for Kriebel and Miller Enterprises and is the brother of Evangelia Julia Shunk and Maria Kim Kriebel.

Bryant attended Penn State University, majoring in Business, where he ran cross country at the Altoona Campus and received a degree in Audio Engineering and Music Production from the Conservatory of Recording Arts and Sciences. He was a drummer in the Antietam High School marching band and a varsity athlete in soccer, track, and cross country.

He was a Sunday School student, an altar boy and captain, attended Jr. Choir, Greek School, and spent 6 summers at Camp Nazareth. Bryant was a Vacation Bible School attendee and teacher, is a lifelong bazaar kitchen helper, participated in Crop Walk, and participated in the Habitat For Humanity Mexico Mission Trip.

A regular church attendee, Bryant grew up participating in the Christmas Pageant, playing a Wise Man, the Narrator, and Joseph. He was a Goyan, playing basketball and serving as Historian, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. He remains active in Habitat For Humanity and continues his family's tradition of serving his beloved church.

# SHUNK

**Evangelia Julia**
**1989-**

Evangelia Julia Shunk was born in Reading on December 27, 1989 to Kim B. and Elaine M. (McGowan) Shunk. She is the granddaughter of Robert H. and Evangeline (Katzos) McGowan.

Evangelia graduated from Antietam High School in 2008 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Penn State University in 2012.

She currently resides in Arlington, VA, and works as an elementary school teacher in Virginia.

Her activities at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church include JOY, GOYA, GOYA basketball and soccer, Greek School, Vacation Bible School, including three years as a teacher for VBS, and volunteering for the Greek Food Bazaar and Habitat for Humanity.

She also participated in the Christmas Pageant, was a Moiroforoi for four years during Holy Week services, received the Student of Orthodoxy Award in Sunday School and was a recipient of an AHEPA Scholarship.

In high school, Evangelia was a three-sport (volleyball, basketball, soccer) varsity athlete. At Penn State, she was a member of the Education Club and consistently made Dean's List.

# SIANIS

**James**
**1890-1979**

**Fotini (Gerasimou)**
**1890-1969**

James Sianis was born in Samos, Greece in 1890. He immigrated to the United States in 1920. Upon his arrival in Reading, he founded and operated the former Mayflower Restaurant.

Over the years, Mr. Sianis was elected to the Parish Council numerous times, having served as Treasurer of the Council from 1955 until 1958. He was also very acdtive and held offices in the Order of A.H.E.P.A. and the G.A.P.A.

He was married to the former Fotini Gerasimou, also of Samos. Fotini was a member of the Philoptochos Society.

They had six children: Costas, Christ, John, William, Stella, and Kalliopi; they had eight grandchildren who they loved dearly.

Fotini passed away in 1969 and James passed way in 1979. May their memory be eternal.

# SIANIS

**Christ**
**1917-2012**

**Mary (Lamprinos)**
**1923-**

Christ Sianis was born on November 4, 1917 to James and Fotini (Gerasimou) Sianis. He emigrated from Samos, Greece in the early 1920s along with his parents and two brothers.

Mary was born in Milton, PA on September 1, 1923 to John and Fevronia (Sacalis) Lamprinos. Her parents were both from Mitilini, Greece.

Mary and Christ were married on March 3, 1946 and were married for 66 years until the passing of Christ on November 8, 2012.

Christ attended the Reading School District and had a Certification in Textile Engineering from Pennsylvania State College. He also studied Industrial Engineering and Economics at Wyomissing Polytechnic Institute. He was employed by Rockwell International and Arrow International as a Market Development Manager. Mary graduated from Milton High School.

They have two daughters, Sandra and Kathy.

Christ was very involved with the Church. He was the President of the Parish Council in 1968, 1969 and 1970 during the construction of the present edifice. He served on numerous Parish Councils for a total of 15 years.

Mary is presently on the Board of Directors for the Philoptochos Society and was a also a member of the Church Choir.

# SIANIS

**John**
**1920-1999**

**Stella (Harris)**
**1920-2006**

John V. Sianis was born in Samos, Greece on January 13, 1920 to James and Fotini Sianis. He emigrated from Samos in 1926 along with his parents and two brothers.

Stella was born in Reading, PA on May 10, 1920 to Harry and Pantoula (Kikiridos) Harris. Her parents were from Asia Minor.

John and Stella were married on June 22, 1944 and had two sons, Harry and James.

John worked for Textile Machine Works and enjoyed being a Boy Scout leader. Stella was a member of the Philoptochos Society and a choir member.

John pased away on October 21, 1991 and Stella passed away on February 21, 2006. May their memory be eternal.

# SIANIS

**Harry J., Sr.**
**1949-**

**Mary (Melcher)**
**1952-**

Harry J. Sianis, Sr. was born in Reading, PA on June 28, 1949 to John and Stella Sianis. He was raised and educated in Reading and graduated from Reading High School. He furthered his education by studying Industrial Management at the Industrial Management Institute. Harry was employed by Eaton Industries. While growing up, he was an Altar boy and attended Sunday School.

Mary (Melcher) was also born in Reading in 1952.

Harry and Mary were married in 1970 and have two children: Harry John, Jr. and Andrea Stella. The family moved to Thornton, CO in 1997 where Harry was employed by Industrial Management Institute until his retirement. Harry was a member of the N.A.P.M.M. in 2000 and A.P.I.C.S. in 2001.

Harry's brother, James, resides in Reading and attends Church regularly.

# SIANIS

**James**
**1951-**

**Kimberly (Titus)**
**1957-2010**

James was born in Reading on April 16, 1951 to John and Stella Sianis. He was a member of the G.O.Y.A. He works in the manufacturing industry.

He married Kimberly Titus who was born in Tamaqua on August 28, 1957. She was the daughter of Edward and Joan Titus. She graduated from the Reading Hospital School of Nursing. She worked as an orthopedic nurse.

Kimberly was chrismated in June of 1990. She was involved with the Orthopedic Nurses Association. She was also a Girl Scout troop leader and Y.M.C.A. volunteer.

James and Kimberly have one daughter, Zoe. She graduated from Wyomissing High School and Kutztown University. She was also a member of the G.O.Y.A. and an outstanding swimmer at Wyomissing High School. She received a scholarship to Kutztown State University.

Kimberly passed away on January 24, 2010. May her memory be eternal.

# SIANIS

**William**
**1930-**

William (Vasilios) Sianis was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on January 1, 1930. Upon completing some years of college education, he became a restaurant owner.

He is the father of two children, James Sianis and Frances Sianis Thompson. James (age 47) is a graduate of Drexel University, and earned an M.B.A. from Penn State University. Frances (age 46) is a graduate of Penn State University.

William served on the Parish Council. He also served four terms as President of AHEPA Chapter No. 61.

William currently resides in Reading.

# SIMOTAS

**Nikolaos**
**1933-**

**Aspasia (Damaskou)**
**1941-**

Nikolaos A. Simotas was born in Zakynthos, Greece, on November 24, 1933 to Alexandros and Demetria (Marouda) Simotas.

Aspasia (Damaskou) was born in Amarousion, Athens, Greece on December 16, 1941 to Demetrios and Eleni (Krithary) Damaskou.

They were married on December 26, 1962 in Amarousion, Athens, Greece. They came to live in Reading, PA on December 26, 1967.

They are both retired from their family business, Simotas Dairy Bar.

Aspasia is a member of the Choir and the Philoptochos Society. She volunteers at many church events, including the Greek Food Bazaar and also makes a habit of visiting parishioners in nursing homes.

The couple lives in Shillington. They have two children, Demetra, married to Curtis Burkert, residing in Muhlenberg, PA, and Alexandros, married to Michele (Weber) Simotas, residing in Sinking Spring, PA. Nikolaos and Aspasia are also the proud grandparents of Niko, Zachary and Zoe Simotas, the children of Alexandros and Michele.

# SIMOTAS

**Alex**
**1972-**

**Michele (Weber)**
**1973-**

Alexandros Simotas was born in West Reading on November 3, 1972, to Nicholas and Aspasia (Damascou) Simotas.

He is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School and Kutztown University.

Alex married the former Michele Weber in 2004. Michele was born in West Reading on September 11, 1973, to Richard and Joan Weber.

Michele is a graduate of Wilson High School and Kutztown University.

Growing up, Alex served in Altar and was a member of GOYA. He is a Sunday School teacher and a member of the William Penn Chapter 61 Order of AHEPA, where he serves as Captain of the Guard.

Currently living in Sinking Spring, Alex and Michele have three children: Nicholas, born on April 28, 2006, and twins, Zachary and Zoe, born on May 1, 2010.

# SIOZOS

**Demetrios**
**1945-**

**Theodora (Georgakopoulou)**
**1962-**

Demetrios N. Siozos was born in Ioannina, Greece on April 1, 1945 to Nickolaos and Evaggelia Siozos. He came to the United States on October 26, 1968.

Theodora (Georgakopoulou) Siozos was born in Gargalianoi, Greece on March 26, 1962 to Agisilaos and Anastasia Georgakopoulos.

They were married on November 8, 1981 in Toronto, Canada. Theodora came to the U.S. on February 28, 1982.

Demetrios is retired from H.B. Reese Candy Company in Hershey, where he worked for 21 years. He is a member of the Reading AHEPA Chapter.

Theodora is an Assistant Cafeteria Manager in the Cornwall-Lebanon School District. She assists with many of the youth groups and volunteers at many church events, including the Greek Food Bazaar.

The couple lives in Lebanon, PA with their sons, Nickolaos D. Siozos, a 2000 graduate of Lebanon High School; and Chrisovalantis A. Siozos, who attends Cedar Crest High School. Nickolaos lives in Lebanon and is employed by H.B. Reese Candy Company in Hershey.

Chrisovalantis is a member of G.O.Y.A., where he is an officer, the Kefi Dance Troupe, and serves in the Altar. He is a graduate of the Greek School program and also volunteers at the Greek Food Bazaar and the Food Pantry.

# SKIAS

**Peter**
**1888-1962**

**Penelope (Miroyanis)**
**1898-1959**

Peter Skias was born in Asia Minor in 1888. He came to Reading in 1914 and was employed as a maintenance man by Textile Machine Works until his retirement. He was a member of G.A.P.A.

Peter's wife, Penelope was born in Halika, Mytilene, Greece in 1898 to Mr. & Mrs. Theofilos Miroyanis. She arrived in the United States on April 1, 1918. She was employed by David Crystal, Inc. She was a member of Philoptochos and the Cleo Lodge of G.A.P.A.

They were the parents of five children: Chris Skias (1929-2007), Anna Spirelis, Nikki Sampson, Artemes Macaronis, and Mary Iannucci. They also had eleven grandchildren.

Peter passed away in 1962 and Penelope passed away in 1959. May their memory be eternal.

# SNYDER

**Lee**
**1931-**

**Patsy "Ypapanti" (Kraras)**
**1932-**

Lee was born and educated in Reading, PA. After graduating from Albright College in 1955, he attended the University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor and received his law degree in 1958. After graduation, the family moved to Germantown and then Malvern, PA while he practiced commercial real estate law in Philadelphia until his retirement from Morgan, Lewis and Bockius. He has served as counsel to Leslie I. Snyder, P.A.

Patsy was born and educated in Reading, PA to a family long active in the Church and AHEPA. Her parents were John and Irene (Tsitselis) Kraras. She graduated from Albright College in 1955 and was a teacher in Michigan while Lee was attending Law School.

They have four daughters: Leslie, an attorney practicing in Miami, FL, married to Martin Ross, a federal officer; Lynda, who is with the New York Law Department, married to Andrew Baer, an attorney; Tory, Urban Planning Specialist and member of the local Planning Commission, married to George Broseman, an attorney; and Alix, Vice-President at Time Warner Cable. Pat and Lee also have four grandchildren; Jessica (Leslie), Carly (Tory), Hailey and John Taylor (Alix).

# SNYDER/ROSS

**Martin Philip**
**1965-**

**Leslie Irene (Snyder)**
**1956-**

Martin was born in Brooklyn, NY and educated in New York and Florida. He completed training at FLETC, Glenco, GA and is presently a federal officer in Miami, FL. He is active at St. Sophia Cathedral in Miami, Florida.

Leslie was born in Ann Arbor, MI to Lee and Pat (Kraras) Snyder where her father was attending law school. After her father graduated, the family moved to Pennsylvania where Leslie was educated through college. She then earned a law degree from California Western School of Law in San Diego, CA and is currently practicing law in Miami, FL where she is active at St. Sophia Cathedral while her family maintains an active role in Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Reading.

Martin and Leslie's daughter, Jessica graduated with a BFA from Parsons School of Design in New York City in May, 2015.

# SOFIANOS

**Milton**
**1888-1969**

Milton was born in Agia Paraskevi, Lesvos, Greece in 1888. He came to the United States in 1902 with his brother George. Milton was one of the first Greek immigrants to live in the Reading area. He served in the U.S. Army during World War I.

Milton was a Charter member of the Greek Community and helped to establish the first Greek Church in Reading. He faithfully served on the Parish Council for the first six years of the Church's existence. He was actively involved in the Order of AHEPA and the American Legion.

Milton spent most of his life as a restaurateur and confectioner. He was the owner of an ice cream and confection shop in the Boyertown area. He retired to Florida, and later returned to Greece where he died in 1969. May his memories be eternal.

# SOFIANOS

**Louis S.**
**1892-1978**

**Marianthi (Moskos)**
**1901-1966**

Louis was born in Agia Paraskevi, Lesvos, Greece in 1892. At fourteen years of age, in 1906, Louis came to the United States to join his older brothers, George and Milton. He attended Reading High School and in 1916 graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agronomy. He also obtained additional certifications in agriculture from the Standard School of Horticulture in Sedali, Missouri. Louis enlisted in the U.S. Army and fought in World War I. All three achievements were "firsts" among the Greek community in the Reading area.

Louis returned to Agia Paraskevi, Greece after the war and married Marianthi Moskos. Marianthi was born in 1901.

In 1921, Louis and Marianthi returned to Reading. They raised four children: Catherine (Zaharis); Louis, Jr. (deceased 1941), Anna (Carley) and Vlacia (Tsakeris).

Louis taught science in high school. He also served as a high school principal of the Boyertown School District. Louis was a talented florist and landscaper. He owned gardens and farms in Wyomissing and Muhlenberg Township. Louis generously contributed flowers to the church on many occasions, and also helped to landscape the church grounds.

Louis helped to establish the first Greek Church in Reading. He served as the President of AHEPA, the Vice President of the Parish Council in 1933, and was a member of the board in 1951 and 1952. He also was actively involved in the Penn State Alumni Association, Penn State Agriculture Society, American Legion, and the Masonic Order.

In addition to being a loving mother, Marianthi created beautiful and unique floral arrangements. She helped design the floral bier that holds the Epidiafio at Easter. Marinathi was an excellent cook, cooking large meals for the many men who worked on the farm.

Louis died in 1978 and Marianthi in 1966. May their memories be eternal.

# SOFIANOS
## "SOPHIANOPOULOS"

**Louis**
**1901-1973**

**Bessie (Devage)**
**1920-1995**

Louis was born and educated in Tropeo, Votinias, Greece. He immigrated to America in 1917. He worked in various restaurants in the Easton area and in 1938, he came to Reading, PA to a GAPA picnic where he met Bessie Devage. They were married that year and then went to live in Easton, PA.

Bessie was born in Homestead, PA and was baptized in the Presentation of Christ (Ypapanti) Church in East Pittsburgh where her parents were members.

In 1948, the couple moved to Reading where Louis opened the Caruso Spaghetti House on Penn Street which he operated for a number of years. Later, he was a partner in the Berks County Restaurant on North 6th Street until he retired in 1960 because of illness.

Bessie was one of the most active members of the Church over the years and outsold all parishioners in ticket sales for the Annual Greek Food Bazaar.

Although she had no children of her own, she has been the Godmother to fifteen children, four of which were baptized on the same day.

May their memory be eternal.

# SOTOS

**Lambros**
**1935-**

**Antigone**
**1937-**

Lambros Sotos was born in Vlachokerasis Greece and is married to Antigone Sotos who was born in Neochori, Greece. Lambros works at Letisse, Inc. as a Foreman and Antigone is also employed by Letisse, Inc.

They have three children, George Soto (49), Fani Sotos Polyak (47) and Eleni Sotos. Lambros and Antigone currently reside in West Lawn, PA.

# SZCZAWINSKI

**Brian**
**1980-**

**Olivia (Ioannidi)**
**1980-**

Brian Russell was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on February 23, 1980 and grew up in Shillington. His father Raymond hails from Boston, and his mother Eileen (Russell) was born in Ireland. After graduating from Governor Mifflin High School in 1998, Brian attended Penn State University, earning a B.S. in Management & Marketing in 2002. Brian is employed as Internet Manager with Penske Corporation.

Olivia Ann was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, on June 14, 1980, and is the daughter of John and Fran Ioannidi. She attended schools in the Reading area as well as in Milan, Italy during her father's overseas assignment. After the family returned to Reading, Olivia graduated from Governor Mifflin High School in 1998 and from Kutztown University in 2003 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. A housewife and mother, Olivia applies her artistic talent to numerous creative outlets, including painting, cake decorating, and various home decorating projects.

Chrismated in our Church in 2010, Brian is an active parishioner who has helped with Sunday School and the annual Food Bazaar. He is also a past member of AHEPA. Olivia serves our parish as a Sunday School teacher and has been involved with the Food Bazaar, annual Christmas Pageant, Vacation Bible School, and the JOY ministry. She is also an active member of Philoptochos, where she currently serves as a board member and acting Recording Secretary. Within the community, Olivia serves as Girl Scout Service Unit Treasurer as well as one of the leaders of Troop #98.

Brian and Olivia were married in our church on July 5, 2003 and are the proud parents of two beautiful children: Mia, age 10, and Calvin, age 6, both Sunday School students. The Szczawinski family currently resides in Shillington.

# TALOTTA

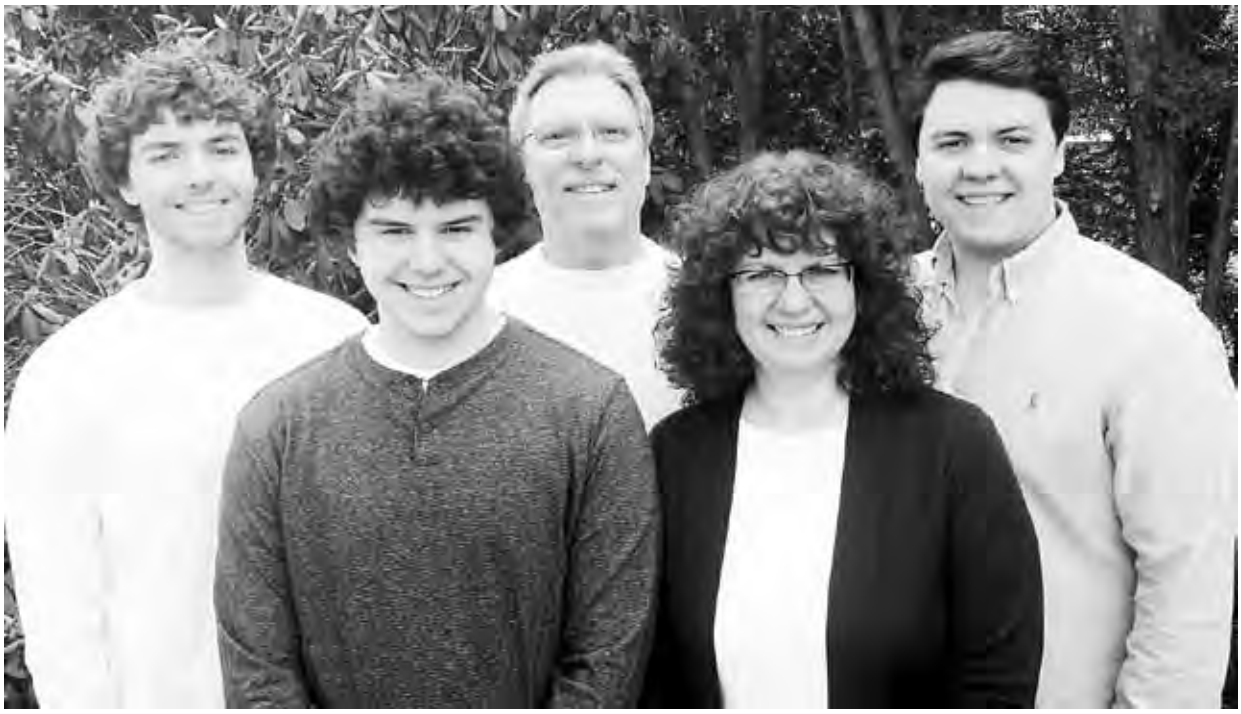
**Victor**
**1983-**

**Stephanie (Rogers)**
**1984-**

Victor was born in Coplay, Pennsylania on July 23, 1983. Victor was awarded a Masters in Business Administration Degree from Lehigh University.

Stephanie was born in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania on November 17, 1984. Stephanie was awarded a Degree in Education Leadership also from Lehigh University. Stephanie has used her skills working with the G.O.Y.A., Vacation Bible School, Food Pantry, the Church Bazaar, and the philanthropic endeavors of the Philoptochos Society.

Both Victor and Stephanie are faithful supporters of the Church.



# THOMAS

**Peter William**
**1958-**

**Anne Marie (DeRupa)**
**1963-**

Peter William Thomas was born on February 4, 1958 in Reading, PA. Peter was raised and educated in Reading.

Peter continued his education and graduated from college. He became a business owner.

Ann Marie (DeRupa) was born in Reading, PA on September 26, 1963.

Peter and Ann Marie were married; they have three sons. William Peter, graduated from Exeter High School and the Pennsylvania College of Technology; Griffin Peter, graduated from Exeter High School and Penn State University; and James Peter graduated from Exeter High School.

Following the long established Thomas Family tradition, Peter and Ann Marie are the owners and operators of Bertie's Inn.

The Thomas Family continues to actively support our beloved Church in any capacity necessary.

# THOMPSON

**Blake**
**1969-**

**Fran (Sianis)**
**1968-**

Fran (Sianis) Thompson was born in Athens, Greece on April 3, 1968. She was adopted by her parents, William and Loretta Sianis, in Athens on August 29, 1968. She became an American citizen in 1972.

She graduated from Pottstown Senior High School in 1986, and from Penn State University in 1990, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Quantitative Business Analysis.

She is currently employed by Conlin's Copy Center, King of Prussia, PA as the Office Manager.

Blake was born in Pottstown, PA on May 4, 1969 to Carroll and Marilyn Thompson.

He graduated from Pottstown Senior High School in 1987. He has been employed as a Cabinetmaker for over 20 years at various shops in the Reading and Pottstown areas.

Fran and Blake were married on July 18, 1992 by Father Tom at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

Fran and Blake have two children. Son Jonathan, age 22, is a 2010 graduate of Daniel Boone High School and currently a senior studying at Drexel University, Philadelphia, majoring in Software Engineering. He is also employed full-time by E-Money Advisors, Conshohocken, PA. Daughter Zoe, age 13, an 8th grader attending Daniel Boone Middle School.

Fran is a Sunday School teacher, and along with Blake, volunteers during the Greek Food Bazaar. Jonathan was an Altar Boy, serving for 10 years. Zoe is involved with the Junior Choir and also helps at the annual bazaar.

The Thompson family resides in Douglassville, PA.

# TILLEY

**Philip**
**1961-**

**Vasso (Papoutsis)**
**1967-**

Phil was born in Newkuay Cornwall, England, where his father, Al, was stationed during his national service in the Royal Air Force. Phil graduated from Peterborough Regina College with a degree in Manufacturing and Engineering. He worked for Rockwell International in Peterborough. In 1990, he was transferred to Reading, PA where he is the Sales Manager for printing presses. In 2003, Phil became a U.S. citizen.

Vasso was five years old when she, her brother, and parents moved to Greece. During the nearly three years that Vasso lived in Volos, she learned to read and to write Greek. When Vasso and her family returned to the States, they moved to the Wilson School District. Her church-related activities include: excellent attendance in Sunday school, a member of the junior choir, and volunteer work in the Pastry Room and Taverna. Vasso has been a Sunday school teacher for more than 30 years. Vasso earned her Master's degree in Education at Kutztown University. She currently teaches in the Governor Mifflin School District.

Vasso and Phil were married in Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. They are the parents of four children: Charlotte, Matthew, Amanda Rose, and Adam James.

Charlotte graduated from Albright College, where she majored in Special Education/ Elementary Education. She is employed by the Glenside Elementary School in Reading, where she is a Learning Support teacher.

Matthew graduated from Conrad Weiser High School, where he was a defensive end on the school's football team. The following year, Matthew entered the U.S. Air Force. He is stationed in Romania.

Amanda and Adam are students at the Spring Ridge Elementary School in the Wilson School District. They have received Sunday School Excellent Attendance awards, sing with the Junior Choir, are volunteer singers of Christmas Carols at the Reading Hospital, and go to Vacation Bible School. Amanda has played on the Wilson Youth Soccer team since she was six years old, plays the cello in her school's elementary orchestra, loves to draw, and likes to ice-skate. Adam is an altar boy, enjoys bicycling, swimming, playing baseball with the Liberty Youth team, spending time with his family, and loves to read. In the summer of 2013, Adam and Amanda took a trip to England with their parents. They were excited to be in London and Cornwall visiting relatives, attending a wedding, and touring historic sites.

# TRIPOLITIS

**Damianos**
**1922-2000**

**Irene (Petrakes)**
**1928-1986**

Damianos was born and educated on the Island of Kos in Greece. He arrived in the United States and came to Reading in 1949.

As many others did at that time, Damianos found employment with the Mantis family at the Crystal Restaurant. He was soon made maître d' at the Crystal and held the position for many years.

He then owned and operated his own luncheonette until his retirement. He came from a family of four daughters; Metsa in Lancaster, Thaleia, Maria and Eleni in Greece and two sons Damianos and George.

Being the eldest sibling, he took care of his family for the first ten years that he was in the United States by sending financial help to his family in Kos.

Damianos was married to Irene (Petrakes). Irene was born on May 2, 1928 in West Reading to Emanuel and Eftihia Petrakes. Although Irene worked full time at the Berkshire Knitting Mills, and later at Vanity Fair, she also found time be an active member of the Philoptochos Society. However, her greatest pleasure was being a devoted mother to their two daughters: Joyce (wife of Steve Lecatsas) and Mary; and grandmother to two lovely grandchildren Stephanie and Steve, Jr. (Lecatsas).

Irene was also devoted to her mother, Eftihia Petrakes, who lived with her all her married life. Irene also had a sister, Mary and a brother, James.

Irene passed away in 1986 and Damianos passed away in 2000. May their memory be eternal.

# TRIPOLITIS

**Mary**
**1962-**

Mary was born to parents Damianos and Irene Tripolitis on December 8 1962.

Mary was raised and educated in Reading, graduating from Wilson High School.

She was employed in the Insurance Industry for many years until she became a Paraprofessional in the Reading School District where she continues her career today.

Mary was active in the Church as a Sunday school teacher and a member of the Ladies St. Xenia Philoptochos Society for many years

Mary has been a volunteer during the Annual Greek Food Bazaar for many years, working alongside her family for the success of the Church.

# TRIPOLITIS

**George**
**1935-2013**

**Shirley (Staggers)**
**1936-**

George Tripolitis was born in 1935 in Kos, Greece. He was the son of the late John and Kontostavlena Tripolitis. He graduated from the Hippocrates Gymnasium and attended the University of Salonika. He was employed as a dental technician in Kos, and immigrated to the United States in 1956. He first settled in Lancaster, Pennsylvania where he was employed as a waiter at the Stock Yard Inn. In 1960, he moved to Reading and became a member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. He was the younger brother of Damianos (Danny) Tripolitis, also a member of the church.

George worked as a waiter, maître d', and in management at Stokesay Castle for over 30 years. He later worked at the Riveredge and the Highlands. George, with his wife Shirley, also managed a real estate business together. George was an active member of the AHEPA and was a former Parish Council member. George passed away in 2013, may his memory be eternal.

In 1961 George married the former Shirley Staggers of Lancaster County. Shirley graduated from East Lampeter High School. Before they married she was employed by the U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, DC. After raising her family, she worked as a clerical worker for the PA Department of Environmental Protection from which she is retired. Shirley is a former Sunday School teacher, member of Philoptochos, and member of the first and second choirs. In 2013 Shirley left the Reading area, moving in with her daughter Georgia and family in Wayne, PA. She is presently a member of St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church in Jeffersonville, PA.

George and Shirley have three children: John, Linda and Georgia. All three children attended St. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, participated in Sunday School, Junior Choir, GOYA and Greek School.

John, who lives in Douglasville, is married to the former Karen Bollman, and has two daughters, Lauren and Kristen.

Linda, who lives in King of Prussia, is a biologist who recently retired from Merck. Linda graduated from Muhlenberg College, and also studied opera at the Philadelphia College of Performing Arts. Linda continues to sing and has performed professionally throughout the Philadelphia area. Linda has one daughter, Annina Baker, an engineering student at Villanova University. Linda and Annina are members of St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church, where Linda has directed the children's choir and coordinated the Sights and Sounds Youth program. Linda and Annina have both been active in the choir at St. Sophia, and Annina was a member of the Greek School, the Greek dance group, and the GOYA.

Georgia, who lives in Wayne, is married to Jeff Ruser. Jeff, a graduate of Lehigh University and Marist College, is a Human Resources executive with a specialty steel company in Philadelphia. Georgia, a graduate of Cedar Crest College and the State University of New York, is a former elementary school teacher, who is home raising her daughter, Marlena. Marlena is a high school student at Upper Merion. Georgia and her family are members of St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church. Marlena has been active in the Sights and Sounds Youth program, junior choir and GOYA.

# TRIPOLITIS

**John**
**1962-**

**Karen (Bollman)**
**1962-**

John is the oldest child and son of Shirley and George Tripolitis. John, a graduate of Lehigh University and Penn State University, is an engineer, and works for the Electric Power Research Institute. John is an AHEPAN, and is a member of the church choir. John's wife, Karen (Bollman), is a graduate of Juniata College, and is a kindergarten teacher at Wyomissing Hills Elementary Center. Karen and John have two daughters, Lauren and Kristen.

Karen and John's eldest daughter, Lauren, is a graduate of Boston College and the William Esper School for Acting (NY). Lauren is presently living and working in Spain, teaching English to both high school students and adults. Their younger daughter, Kristen, is a graduate of Drexel University, and works for an advertising firm in Philadelphia.

# TSAKERIS

**Athanasios**
**1888-1945**

**Thalia (Lambros)**
**1897-1969**

Athanasios Tsakeris was born in Lesvos, Greece in 1888, and immigrated to the United States in 1911.

Thalia Lambros was born in Kos, Greece in 1897, and arrived at Ellis Island on October 19, 1914. Thalia came to Reading, where she lived with her three brothers and two sisters. One of her brothers, Costas Lambros, was very active and an early member of our Church.

Athanasios and Thalia were married in 1921. Anthanasios proudly became an American citizen in June of 1929. He helped establish our first Church. Both Athanasios and Thalia were active members of GAPA during their lifetimes.

They were blessed with four sons: Michael, Stan, Steve and James, who also faithfully served our church and their communities.

Athanasios died in 1945 and Thalia in 1969. May their memories be eternal.

# TSAKERIS

**James T.**
**1928-**

**Vlacia M. (Sofianos)**
**1936-**

James was born in Reading, PA on December 9, 1928. He graduated from Reading High School in 1946, and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. Jimmy worked as a draftsman at Gilbert's Associates and Sanders and Thomas. He also worked as a draftsman for the County of Berks Engineering Department for 35 years.

Vlacia Sofianos Tsakeris was born on February 29, 1936, also in Reading, PA. She graduated from Reading High School in 1954. Vlacia worked at PMA Causality Insurance Company for 7½ years and in the credit office at Boscov's for 20 years.

James and Vlacia were married in 1956, and are the parents of two beautiful daughters, Catherine Tsakeris, married to John Rogowski and Pamela Tsakeris Werle, married to Michael Werle. James and Vlacia have four grandchildren: twins, Elena and Jillian Tsakeris Rogowski and Alexandra and Michael J. Werle.

Jimmy served on the Parish Council from 1973 to 1976, and served on the Building Committee to develop plans for our current church. He was the Vice President of AFSME from 1985 through 1991.

Vlacia is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society; she is a member and past vice president of the Daughters of Penelope. She was the Vacation Bible School Snack Co-Coordinator and knits beautiful baby hats, lap robes, baby and full size for Church shut in, Berks Heim, and Life Line.

James and Vlacia taught Sunday School at the same time when our Church was located at 8th and Court Streets. They also sang in the Church Choir. Vlacia and Jimmy helped with baking for the Church bazaars. In addition, Vlacia made crafts for bazaar and worked in the gift shop, while Jimmy manned ticket sales.

Vlacia and Jim have worked as volunteers in the Church office since 1984, and continue to the present. They are loving and caring parents, grandparents, parishioners and friends.

# TZINIS

**Costas**
**1952-**

**Sophia (Psaroulis)**
**1952-**

Costas Tzinis of Exeter Township, was born in Athens, Greece on August 15, 1952 to Haralambos (of Patras, Greece) and Irene (of Aivali, Asia Minor). Educated in Chemistry at the University of Athens, and Valedictorian of his graduating class, Costas was honored as one of the 20 best students in Greece by the President of Greece. In 1976, Costas immigrated to the U.S. and went on to earn a PhD in Physical Chemistry from Brown University. Costas worked as a researcher for Bell Labs and is now retired. His church and community involvement includes Greek School Teacher and Director from 1991-1999, participation on the Environmental Advisory Council in Exeter Township, and work with the United Way.

Sophia Tzinis was born to Nicholas and Fotini Psaroulis on December 21, 1952 in Athens, Greece. Her parents were from Messenia in the Peloponnese. Sophia received a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the University of Thessaloniki. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1978 and worked at M&T Bank as a Bank Supervisor. Sophia also taught Greek school from 1989-1999 and 2007-2014. On July 29, 1978, Sophia and Costas were married. They have raised 3 children. Irene (32), wife of Gary Mather, works for ASRC Research and Technology Solutions. Fotini (31), wife of John Stratis, works for Pfizer, and Haralambos (Bobby – 30), husband of Anna Kotopoulos, is a family practice physician.

# ULRICH

**Jason**
**1980-**

**Katherine M.**
**1980-**

Katherine M. Ulrich was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on May 17, 1980. After graduating from the local high school, Katherine entered West Chester University where she completed all requirements and was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. She became a data analyst.

Jason Ulrich was born in Reading, Pennsylvania on September 3, 1980.

Jason and Katherine are members and supporters of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, and the philanthropic endeavors of the Church and the Philoptochos Society.

# WADSWORTH

**Michael**
**1971-**

**Elizabeth (Rohm)**
**1975-**

Elizabeth is the daughter of James and Kathleen Rohm. She was born in Sellersville, PA on March 8, 1975.

Elizabeth graduated from Shippensburg University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and from Cleveland State University with a Master of Art in Psychology with a specialty in Consumer Industrial Research. She is employed as a research manager at GfK in Wayne, PA.

Elizabeth is very involved with the Church. In her youth, she was a member of G.O.Y.A., Sunday School, and participated in the Oratorical Festival at the National Level. She is now a Sunday School teacher.

Michael is the son of Stanley and Pamela Wadsworth. He was born in Detroit, MI on December 8, 1971.

Michael graduated from West Virginia University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, and a Master of Arts in Sociology. He is employed as a research manager at GfK in Wayne, PA.

Michael and Elizabeth have two children, Brian and Katherine (Katie). Both children attend Sunday School. Brian is an altar boy and a member of Cub Scouts. Katie is a member of Girl Scouts.

# WAGNER

**David**
**1972-**

**Dawn (Jackson)**
**1972-**

David N. Wagner was born on March 22, 1972 to Conrad D. and Despina M. (Choumbakos) Wagner in Reading, PA. Yiayia's (Bessie Choumbakos) family emigrated from Gythion (Peloponese) in the 1920s and Papou (Harry Choumbakos) emigrated in 1912 from the Island of Lesbos. He was baptized in the summer of 1972 with Nicholas and Theano Salakos as godparents. David grew up in our church, serving as an altar boy, attending Sunday School, and participating in GOYA.

David grew up in Sinking Spring and Cincinnati, Ohio. He graduated from Turpin High School in Cincinnati in 1990 and enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served at Fort Ord (CA), and Fort Lewis (WA) and was honorably discharged in 1993. After moving to Connecticut, David worked for a pharmaceutical company and entered the cigar business in 2006, moving his family to Wyomissing.

Dawn was born on July 16, 1972 to Orville Jackson and Betty (Eaves) Howard in Modesto, CA. She grew up in Salinas, CA, graduating from North Salinas High School in 1991. She met David while he was serving in the Army in California.

David and Dawn were married on May 17, 1997. David works for Oliva Cigar Company in Miami, FL. Dawn has worked as an in-home day care provider and a legal secretary. They have two children, Nicholas and Alyssa. Nicholas was born in 1999 in Norwalk, CT and Alyssa was born in 2003 in Stamford, CT. Both attend school in Weston, Florida.

The family attends church whenever they visit the area, and they maintain close ties to our church community.

# WAGNER

**Christopher**
**1975-**

**Stefanie (Sharp)**
**1975-**

Christopher C. Wagner was born on January 8, 1975 to Conrad D. and Despina M. (Choumbakos) Wagner in Reading, PA. Yiayia's (Bessie Choumbakos) family emigrated from Gythion (Peloponese) in the 1920s and Papou (Harry Choumbakos) emigrated in 1912 from the Island of Lesbos. He was baptized in May 1975 with Carl and Clara Kratsas as godparents.

Chris grew up in Sinking Spring, Cincinnati, and Connecticut. He graduated from Trumbull High School in Connecticut in 1992 and went on to Penn State. He transferred to West Chester University in 1995 and graduated in 1997 with a B.S. in Education. He then earned a Master's in Education from Kutztown University in 2007.

Chris married Stefanie Lynn Sharp on December 21, 2002.

Stefanie was born on November 17, 1975 to Steven A. and Sylvia A. (DeSantis) Sharp in Reading, PA. Her maternal grandparents immigrated from Italy. She grew up in Temple, graduating from Muhlenberg High School in 1994. She graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 1998 with a B.S. in Education and earned a Masters in Education from Wilkes University in 2004.

Chris and Stefanie are both teachers at Wilson High School. Chris has been teaching social studies at Wilson since 1997, and Stefanie has been teaching business and entrepreneurship classes since 1998. They both have been members of the Wilson Education Association since they began teaching. Chris served as Vice President of the WEA and Chief Negotiator.

The Wagners are very active in the church. Chris is a member of AHEPA, serving as Athletic Director and Vice President. Stefanie was chrismated in April, 2006 with Roula Elliker as her sponsor. She joined the Philoptochos in 2014. They both have served as Sunday School teachers. The entire family also volunteers every month with the Food Pantry.

They have two children, Jackson and Maria. Jackson, born in 2006, and Maria, born in 2009, both attend Sunday School and Greek School regularly. Jackson is also an Altar boy. They both attend Shiloh Hills Elementary School in the Wilson School District.

# WAGNER

**Richard**
**1937-**

**Athena (Kontaxes)**
**1947-**

Athena (Kontaxes) Wagner was born in Reading on November 25, 1947 to Nicholas and Mary (Architas) Kontaxes.

Athena graduated from Wilson High School in 1965 and Albright College in 1969 with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology. Athena works as an agency owner representing Allstate Insurance Co. for 32 years. She sells and services both property and casualty products as well as annuities and financial products. She served on the Parish Council. She is also a member of Philoptochos and served as a Vice President of the organization.

Richard "Rick" Wagner was born in Reading on October 26, 1937. He graduated from Lebanon Valley College in 1960 with a degree in Chemical Engineering and worked at Polymer Corp. as Sales Manager for 18 years; he began his own business in 1989, Penn Fibre and Specialty Co., a plastic extrusion company. The sales office was in Philadelphia and the manufacturing facility in Greenwood, DE and employed 110 people. He sold the business in 1997 and retired.

Athena and Rick were married in 1989. The Wagners have two children: Stephen Michael, who is deceased; and Stephanie Lyn Mitchell, who graduated from Temple University School of Pharmacy with a Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy. They also have two grandchildren, Kyran and Stephen.

Rick and Athena enjoy spending time with their grandchildren, playing golf and relaxing at their home on Seabrook Island, S.C.

# WEEBER

**Matthew**
**1975-**

**Christina Lynne (Chaknos)**
**1977-**

Matthew "Matt" was born in Reading on November 12, 1975. He is the son of Doug and Joanne Weeber. He is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School and Kutztown University. Currently, he is employed by Merrill Lynch, where he is a Senior Financial Advisor.

Christy was born on October 8, 1977 to Michael and Karen Chaknos. Her paternal great-grandparents were from Kos, Greece and also from Ioannina, Greece. She is a graduate of Governor Mifflin High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Penn State University in 2000. Presently, she is the Senior Vice-President of Finance at East Penn Manufacturing.

Matt and Christy were married on October 13, 2011.

Christy has been an active member of the Junior League of Reading, PA, Inc. since 2011, and also serves as a Sunday School teacher assistant.

Matt and Christy have two children: Hailey Alexis, age 7, a student at Wilson Cornwall Terrace Elementary School, and also a regular Sunday School attendee; and Christopher Matthew, age 1.

# WEIDNER

**Mark**
**1957-**

**Joanne (Marmarou)**
**1951-**

Joanne Weidner was born in Reading, PA on March 19, 1951. Joanne was raised and educated in Reading until high school graduation. Joanne continued her education at Kutztown University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Management.

Joanne has worked in the pharmaceutical industry; she is a bio pharmaceutical cardiovascular specialty representative currently working for Amgen Incorporated.

Joanne is an active member in many aspects of the Church Community. She attended Greek School and was a member of the Church Choir. She was also a Sunday school teacher.

Joanne's son, Christopher Beidler, is married to Pamela and they have a son, Christopher. Joanne also has a daughter, Lisa, who is married to Thomas Alexander Meitzler. They have a son, Nicholas.

Joanne is married to Mark Weidner who was also born in Reading on February 16, 1957. Mark was raised and educated in Reading, He graduated from Wilson High School in 1975. Mark continued his education and graduated from Rider University with a degree in Accounting. Mark is the Chief Financial Officer for B & G Glass Company.

Mark also has two daughters, Maria, who is married to Aaron Hill and Jennifer, who is married to Eric Valent. Mark has four grandchildren: Grace, Caroline, Dominic and Christian.

# WHITMAN

**Dean**
**1951-**

**Sharon (Bankes)**
**1952-**

Dean was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Robert and Margaret (Gilmor) Whitman. He graduated from Governor Mifflin High School in 1969. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education from Kutztown University in 1973. He received a Certificate in Data Processing from Albright College.

Sharon Bankes was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1952 to Donald and Helen (George) Bankes. She graduated from Reading Senior High School in 1970, where she was a member of the National Honor Society and was in the top ten of her graduating class. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Millersville University in 1974, cum laude.

After graduation both Sharon and Dean began careers with the United States Postal Service. They met while working at the Reading Post Office and were married June 24, 1979. Dean served as the Postmaster of Fleetwood for nineteen years and retired in 2007. Sharon served as the Postmaster of Denver for twenty-four years and retired in 2010.

Both Sharon and Dean are very active members of the Church. Sharon began teaching Sunday School while still attending college and continued to teach for twenty-five years. Dean converted to Orthodoxy in 1980 and partnered with Sharon teaching fifth and sixth grade Sunday school students. Sharon is currently the First Vice President of Philoptochos. Dean is also a member of Philoptochos and has volunteered to be "oven tender" for the baking since his retirement in 2010. Both Sharon and Dean are members of the choirs (First and Second). Both volunteer their time at the Homeless Shelter. Sharon is part of the knitting ministry and Dean is part of the kitchen crew. Dean is the corresponding Secretary for AHEPA Chapter 61. Sharon and Dean were members of the Church's Centennial Committee and assisted in the writing of the family histories for the commemorative album.

Sharon is a member of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States, where she has held various leadership positions. She is currently the Membership Chair for the retirees. She is a member of Lancaster County Postmasters and held various leadership positions. She is currently the Chapter President of Chapter 103 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

Dean is a member of Masonic Lodge 62, Scottish Rite, and Patriotic Order Sons of America where he holds the position of Financial Secretary. He is a member of National Association of Postmasters of the United States. He is currently the Treasurer of Chapter 103 of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association.

# YATRON

**George H.**
**1896-1971**

**Theano (Lazos)**
**1904-1963**

George H. Yatron was born in 1896 in Polichnitos on the Island of Lesvos, Greece which was occupied at that time by the Ottoman Empire. He attended schools in Mytilene and Turkey. He immigrated to the United States in 1912.

George started a contracting business as an outgrowth of his carpentry trade in Greece. When the Community was ready to build a school to educate the children on the Greek language and traditions, he was selected as the General Contractor and built the former Greek School building that was used by two generations of the Greek Community's children. Later, he became the proprietor of the thriving Yatron's Ice Cream Company and Yatron's Hardware Company.

Theano Lazos was born in 1904, also on the Island of Lesvos. She immigrated to the United States in 1920.

Theano and George met in Reading, PA and were married in 1924. They had three children: Gus, born in 1927, who married the former Millie Menzies in 1948; Katherine, born in 1930, who married Richard Kubacki; and Stratton, born in 1932, who married Molly Prahalis in 1953.

George was an active member of both AHEPA and GAPA as well as the Greek-American Democratic Club.

May their memories be eternal.

# YATRON

**Gus**
**1927-2003**

**Mildred (Menzies)**
**1926-2009**

Gus Yatron was born in Reading, PA to George H. and Theano Lazo Yatron, working-class Greek immigrants from the Greek Island of Lesvos. His father, George, was a carpenter and his mother, Theano, worked as a maid. Gus graduated from Reading High School, serving as class president during his senior year. Following high school, Yatron received his bachelor's degree at Kutztown University in 1950, where he also met his future wife, Mildred L. Yatron. While attending Kutztown University, Yatron played college football for the Golden Bears, and was later inducted into the Kutztown University Athletic Hall of Fame. During his college years, he also took up boxing, becoming a heavyweight division professional boxer in 1947, with a professional career record of 13-2-1, nine of which were TKO. After graduating from college, Yatron operated "Yatron Ice Cream," the business he founded with his father and built it into a local success in his home town, eventually expanding the business with an additional hardware store. In 1968, he sold "Yatron Ice Cream" to a local competitor and began to focus on his career in political public service.

Gus started his career in public service on the Reading School Board from 1955 to 1961. He served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 1956 until 1960, when he was elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate. After serving 24 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, Gus retired in 1992.

Mildred "Millie" was an Honor Graduate of Reading High School and graduated from Kutztown University. She was employed as an English teacher for Northwest Middle School of the Reading School District.

Gus and Millie were married in 1948 and are the parents of George and Theana.

Gus served Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church as one of only three Church Archons.

# YATRON

**George C.**
**1951-**

**Shirleen (Sabalski)**
**1955-**

George was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Gus and Millie Yatron. He is the grandson of George and Theano Yatron, who immigrated to America from the Island of Lesvos.

George is a graduate of Reading High School and the University of Pittsburgh. He graduated from Georgetown University Law Center with a Juris Doctorate in law. George served Berks County as District Attorney from 1980 to 1992. He is currently serving as a Federal Administrative Law Judge for the southeastern region of Pennsylvania. George has received the Crime Victims Center Award, the Jaycees Outstanding Young Man Award and the Berks County Prison Society Award.

Shirleen (Sabalski) Yatron was born in 1955 in Reading, Pennsylvania to Edward and Constance Sabalski. Shirleen is an aide with the Beginners Class of Sts. Constanstine & Helen Sunday School.

George and Shirleen are the parents of Christine, a graduate of Albright College and currently working toward her Masters at Kutztown University and Alexander, a graduate of Gettysburg College and currently enrolled at Villanova University working toward his Juris Doctorate.

# YATRON

**Peter**
**1894-1953**

**Rallio (Papoutsis)**
**1897-1960**

Peter was born in Polichnitos, Mytilene in January 1894. After completing the gymnasium (high school) and while still in his teens, Peter left Greece for Alexandria, Egypt, where he worked at an English officers' service club. While there, he learned to speak English and subsequently came to the United States.

Peter worked as a foreman for the Reading Streets Department and also as a Notary Public. He was instrumental in preparing many Greek immigrants of his time to acquire their U.S. citizenship, and it was to him that many of them came for help with their problems. He also prepared the paperwork necessary to bring approximately 64 people from Greece to the United States. Peter, a very intelligent and well-read man, served as the 4th President of the Parish Council and was also a 32nd Degree Mason.

Rallio was born in Filia, Mytilene in 1897 and arrived in the United States in 1916. She completed the 8th grade of the gymnasium at a time when many of her peers did not. As a number of the Greek women of her generation could neither read nor write Greek, it was to Rallio that they came for assistance with their letters. She read their letters to them and wrote their replies. Rallio can best be described as a true lady and a wonderful mother.

Peter and Rallio had five sons and four daughters. Following the end of World War II, Peter gathered four of his sons together and suggested they form their own company. What began as four brothers working out of the family garage evolved into what is now Adelphi Kitchens, employing roughly 100 people. This undertaking could not have succeeded without Paul as the master cabinet maker, Stratton as an excellent financial planner, Bobby as an accomplished upholsterer, and Nicholas as an experienced carpenter. Michael, the brother not involved in the family business, earned his PhD in English and became a full professor. He taught English literature at both Kutztown University and Temple University, and he also completed work at Harvard University and Stanford University.

Marina, the first of the four girls, taught advanced placement English in the Boyertown School District and at Upper Darby High School. Marilyn taught French at Indiana University. Irene worked as a telephone operator until her retirement, and Frances, the youngest of the nine children, is currently employed by Berks Cardiologists.

# YATRON

**Stratton P.**
**1925-**

**Sarah D. (Davenport)**
**1928-**

Stratton Peter was born in Reading, PA to Peter and Rallio Yatron. He and his brother Paul started to earn money early on by selling newspapers on the street. Stratton is a graduate of Reading High School and Albright College, class of 1950, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Stratton and his brothers began their business, Adelphi Kitchens, in the garage behind his parents' house. It is now located in Robesonia, PA, a plant formerly owned by the Caron Mills. Stratton was the CFO (chief financial officer) at Adelphi Kitchens, a position now held by his son Stratton David. He goes to work daily. He is a member of Rotary International.

Sarah Davenport Yatron was born in Harrisburg, PA. She graduated from Albright College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1950. Sarah was an English teacher for 6 years in the Hamburg schools and a French teacher at Reading Sr. High School. She is currently retired. Sarah has been a tutor for literacy for over 40 years at the Literacy Council of Reading, Berks. Sarah was a Sunday school teacher and Superintendent of the Sunday school, along with Mary Pettis.

Stratton and Sarah were married on June 21, 1952. They have two children, Deborah and Stratton. Deborah Yatron Pyle is a retired Spanish teacher from the Wilson School District, who now has a piano studio in her home with 49 students and is the Director of Music at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church, in Stony Creek Mills. She is a graduate of Albirght College and has a Master's Degree. Stratton David Yatron graduated from Wilson High School and Albright College. He is now the Chief Financial Officer at Adelphi Kitchens. He is married to Susan Enoch Yatron and they have two sons, Stratton Andrew Yatron and Thomas Ian Yatron. They are students at Schuylkill Valley Junior and Senior High Schools.

# YATRON

**Paul**
**1927-2015**

**Betty Jane (Snyder)**
**1930-2011**

Paul, the youngest of the five sons of Peter and Rallio Yatron, was born in Reading in 1927. He attended the Reading schools, and while still a teenager, enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he served during World War II. Unlike Paul, his four older brothers served in the U.S. Army. Upon their return from the war, Paul and three of his brothers pooled their talents to start what eventually became Adelphi Kitchens. Upon their retirement, they turned over the reins of the company to their respective sons, who currently operate the business.

Betty was born in Reading in 1930, the only child of Annie and Bill Snyder. A graduate of Reading High School, Betty was an excellent wife and mother to their four children. William, the oldest of the four, is a graduate of Albright College and the current President of Adelphi Kitchens. Paul, their second son is a graduate of Dickinson College and the Creighton Law School. He is currently the President Judge of Berks County and is responsible for overseeing the 400 employees of the court system. Nicholas, the youngest of the four children, also holds a managerial position with Adelphi Kitchens. Annette Conlon, Paul and Betty's only daughter, retains an interest in the company. She is a mother, grandmother, and excellent homemaker.

Paul and Betty have 8 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

Betty passed away in July, 2011; Paul passed away on June 16, 2015. May Their Memory Be Eternal.

# YATRON

**William P.**
**1949-**

**Lorraine L. (Didden)**
**1959-**

William is the son of Paul P. and Betty J. Yatron and the grandson of Peter and Rallio Yatron, who emigrated from the island of Mytilene. He graduated from Albright College with a Bachelor of Arts degree and is now the President of Adelphi Kitchens, a kitchen manufacturing plant founded by his father, Paul, and three of his uncles.

Lorraine was born in Reading to Bernard and Patricia Didden, also has a Bachelor of Arts degree. She is an excellent calligrapher and in that capacity, she was the subject of a feature article in the *Reading Eagle.*

William and Lorraine were married in 1988 and reside in Sinking Spring. They have three daughters: Alyssa, Cassandra and Emily.

Alyssa, Cassandra, and Emily are college graduates with Bachelor of Arts degrees, like their parents. Cassandra graduated from Penn State University in 2012 and Emily graduated from Kutztown University in 2014.

# YATRON

**Paul Michael**
**1951-**

**Susan Elizabeth (Potteiger)**
**1950-**

Paul Michael Yatron was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1951 to Paul Peter and Betty Jane Yatron. He is the grandson of Peter Haralambos & Ralli Yatron of Mytilene, Lesbos. Paul graduated in 1976 with a juris doctorate degree from Creighton University. Paul is currently the president judge of the Berks County Court of Common Pleas. He is a member of both the Berks County and the Pennsylvania Bar Associations.

Susan Elizabeth was born in 1950 to Lee F. and Anna Potteiger in Reading, Pennsylvania. Susan is a college graduate and is currently employed in customer service.

Paul and Susan were married on May 29, 1982.

# YIANOULIS

**James "Dimitri"**
**1901-1973**

**Theodora (Ioannidi)**
**1922-2008**

James Yianoulis was born on the island of Kos, Greece on August 23, 1901. He was the son of Emmanuel and Hariklia (Koyopoulos) Yianoulis. James had three sisters: Thalia (Fournaris), deceased; Smaragdi (Keares), deceased; and Marigo Yianoulis, deceased.

James finished his schooling in Kos and immigrated to the United States in May 1920. As did many of his fellow Greeks in Reading at the time, he worked at the Crystal Restaurant on Penn Street. During World War II, James was a PFC in the Army and served as a cook stationed in Atlantic City, NJ and Bermuda. After the war, he returned to Reading and became a partner in the Brighter Restaurant with his cousin Michael Zervanos. He remained there until his retirement in 1969.

In 1949, James returned to Greece and married Theodora Ioannidi on August 7. The couple came back to Reading, PA where their daughter, Despina, was born in 1950. James was a volunteer fireman and a member of the VFW. He passed away on August 9, 1973.

Theodora Ioannidi was born in Kos, Greece, on September 8, 1922, one of eight children of John and Despina (Savaidis) Ioannidi. She had three brothers: Evangelos of Kos, deceased; Theofrastos of Reading, deceased; and Gabriel in Athens. Theodora also had four sisters: Katina (Regini) of Belgium, deceased; Flora (Pampris) of New York, deceased; Maritsa (Orfanoudakis) of Kos, deceased; and Cleopatra (Diakoyiannis) of Kos.

Theodora completed high school in Kos during the time the island was occupied by Italy. She spoke fluent Italian and was skilled in the art of sewing and embroidering. Theodora's first experience in America was on Ellis Island, where she was detained for three days in 1949 before joining her new husband. Theodora was employed at David Crystal Inc. as a seamstress from 1965 until her retirement in 1992. Theodora passed away on August 3, 2008.

# YIANOULIS

**Despina**
**1950-**

Despina was born on May 18, 1950 in Reading, PA, the only daughter of James and Theodora (Ioannidi) Yianoulis, emigrants from the island of Kos, Greece. A lifelong resident of Reading, Despina attended the Reading public schools, graduating from Reading High School in 1968 and from Kutztown University in 1972, with a B.S. in Elementary Education. She was employed by the former Whitner's department store, Bell of PA, and for more than 30 years has worked as a Charter Tours Consultant with White Star Tours.

An active member of our parish throughout her life, Despina has participated in Sunday School, Greek School, GOYA, and the Church Choir. She is a former Sunday School teacher and continues to serve as an aid in the Pre-K classroom. She also taught an alternative Greek School class for a couple years. Despina also served for many years on the Parish Council, including several terms as Recording Secretary. A long-time member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society, she has served as a member of the Board of Directors, Vice President, and most recently as Recording Secretary. Additionally, she served as president of the former Daughters of Penelope Chapter in Reading.

Despina has for many years volunteered her time at the annual Greek Food Bazaar, directing the preparation of spanakopita and serving as chairperson for the Platter Take-Out Area.

Known for her loyalty to family and friends, Despina is a proud and dedicated godmother to eight, including a cousin in Greece.

# ZAFFARY

**James Peter**
**1920-2008**

**Mary (Marmarou)**
**1921-2012**

James was born in Danville, Pennsylvania in 1920 to Peter and Rallia Marmaarou. His parents immigrated to the United States from Mytilene. He graduated from Reading High School and Business School. James was a World War II veteran and hero. He received the Bronze Star and three Purple Hearts. James was an expert numismatist (coins), being an expert in mint errors. There were books written on the subject dedicated to him. He was a restaurateur and retired from the United States Postal Service, where he held the position of postal clerk. James married Mary Marmarou in 1940. He passed away in 2008.

Mary (Marmarou) was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1921 to Nicholas and Stella Marmarou. Her parents immigrated to the United States from Mytilene. She graduated from Reading High School. She worked as a seamstress. She passed away in 2012.

Both James and Mary were active at our Church. He served on the Church Council for two years in the 1980s. He was a member of AHEPA. Mary was a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope.

Both James and Mary belonged to community organizations. James was a member of Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and the APWU (American Postal Workers Union). He was a member of the Reading Coin Club, serving as the Secretary. He was also a Mason. Mary was a member of the 10th and Green Parent Teachers Association and the Order of Eastern Star.

They are the parents of four children: Nicholas, Peter, Stella (Zdunowski Mowbray), and Christ. Son Peter passed away in 2008, eleven days before his father passed away.

# ZAHARIS

**Harry Peter**
**1922-2005**

**Catherine (Sofianos)**
**1922-**

Harry was born in Minersville, Pennsylvania on February 1, 1922. He attended Minersville High School, but left school to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war ended, Harry returned to finish school and obtain his high school degree. He graduated from Pierce Junior College with a degree in Accounting. Harry partnered with his brother Thomas to own Zaharis' Restaurant in Shenandoah, PA. Later, Harry became sole owner of the restaurant. He was well known for his tasty hot dogs with "the works" which included his homemade chili. Harry was very kind and generous to his customers often giving free coffee and meals to the local police or to less-fortunate people. Harry belonged to a stock market investment club called the Monarchs. He was an active member of AHEPA and the kitchen crew.

Catherine Sofianos Zaharis was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on October 2, 1922. Her parents settled in Reading, Pennsylvania and she graduated from Muhlenberg High School in 1940. She attended McCann School of Business and worked as a secretary for the Boy Scouts. After Catherine married Harry, she moved to Shenandoah, PA and raised three lovely daughters: Stephanie Stavroula, Vlacia Marianthe, and Demetria Paraskaevoula. She worked as a seamstress in women's fashions when her daughters were older. Catherine taught her daughters to bake tasty Greek treats and to crochet, sew, and knit. Catherine was a past president of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society and a member of the Daughters of Penelope and Maids of Athena. She was the VBS Snack Co-Coordinator, made crafts and worked in the pastry room, and knitted baby hats for our knitting ministry. Catherine was a member and volunteer of the Berks County Historical Society.

Harry and Catherine love the Greek Orthodox Faith. They are fine role models to their six amazing grandchildren: Stratton, Andrew, Mercena, Joshua, Christian, and Alexis. They are blessed with an adorable great grandson, Ethan. They were active as choir members, church office volunteers, and at the emergency shelter. They volunteered at St. Joseph's Hospital and the Living Center. Harry went to join our Lord Jesus Christ on July 27, 2005. May his memory be eternal.

# ZAMPELLI

**Patricia Ann (Lecatsas)**
**1937-**

Patricia was born in Reading, Pennsylvania in 1937 to Stanley and Mollie (Karish) Lecatsas. Her father immigrated to the United States from the island of Mytilene when he was three years old. She graduated from Reading High School. She retired from her job as an office manager of an orthopedic practice. She was married to the late Sebastian Zampelli.

She has been active at our Church since her early years. She attended Sunday school and Greek school. She is a member of St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She spends endless hours during our Church bazaar working in the back kitchen preparing the pastry to be sold in the pastry room. She is also an integral member of the baking team for both the Church bazaar and the Philoptochos spring bake sale. She helps with the team who works in the Church hall to remove the pastry and bread from the trays and packs it for storage.

Patricia has two children: Debra Reber and Jase Reber. Debra is still active at our Church and Jase lives in Virginia. She has four grandchildren: Brandon Spinka, Elizabeth Reber Totty, Adam Reber, and Jessica Reber. She has four great grandchildren: Trent Totty, Jake Totty, Ryder Spinka, and Jackson Spinka.

# ZDUNOWSKI

**Michael J.**
**1948-2009**

**Stella (Zaffary) Mowbray**
**1950-**

Stella M. Zaffary was born on February 1, 1950, in Reading, to James P. and Mary A. (Marmarou) Zaffary. Stella earned an Associate's Degree in Interior Design and a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Kutztown University. She is a retired business owner.

Michael was born on February 3, 1948, in Reading, to Joseph and Mary Zdunowski. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Albright College and was a business entrepreneur in the Reading area. He was chrismated into the Orthodox faith on May 19, 2002. Michael helped the Church whenever he could and also mentored those less fortunate in Berks County. He was involved with Juvenile Diabetes, Victor Emmanuel Society and St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church groups.

Stella and Michael were married on June 3, 1973. They have three children: Amy Zdunowski Roeder, Kristen Zdunowski Artines and Nicole Zdunowski Sjoblom. Amy is a graduate of Moravian College and attended Sunday School, was a member of GOYA, attended Camp Nazareth and also participated in the Oratorical Festival, which she won. Kristen is a graduate of Ithaca College and attended Sunday School and Camp Nazareth. Nicole is a graduate of Syracuse University and attended Sunday School and Camp Nazareth.

Stella is a 35-year member of the Philoptochos Society and served as Treasurer from 1986-1988. She has also been a member of the Second Choir since 1998. Outside of church, she is active with the Junior League of Reading, United Way, the Reading Symphony, the Berks County Historical Society, Goodwill Industries and Opportunity House.

Michael passed away on August 11, 2009. Stella, who resides in Reading, married Charles S. Mowbray on November 16, 2013.

# ZEPPOS

**Demosthenes**
**1906-1995**

**Magdelina (Katsafanos)**
**1904-1985**

Demosthenes G. Zeppos was born in 1906 in Vlahokerasia, Greece to George and Georgia (Hariotis) Zeppos. Demosthenes was educated in Greece and came to the United States in 1951.

Upon His arrival in the United Sates, Demosthenes was employed by the Crystal Restaurant until 1955, when he became part owner of the Eat-Well in Lebanon. In 1973, he became part owner of Schmeck's Family Restaurant in Hamburg as well, until his retirement in 1982.

Magdelina (Katsafanos) was born in 1904 in Vlahokerasia, Greece. Demosthenes and Magdelina were married and had eight children: Georgia, Martha, John who remained in Greece, Taso of Reading, Peter and Gus of Lebanon, and Alex and George D. of Wyomissing. Magdelina passed away in 1985 and Demosthenes passed away in 1995.

A very pertinent and appropriate point related to our Church's history is that Magdelina's cousin, Constantine "Papa" Mantis, was one of the original founders of our beloved Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church.

The entire Zeppos Family has always and continues to actively support our beloved Church in any capacity necessary.

# ZEPPOS

**Anastasios**
**1926-2015**

**Athena (Limberiou)**
**1934-**

Anastasios "Taso" Zeppos was born in Vlahokerashia, Greece in 1926. He immigrated to the United States in 1959, where he became employed as foreman at the Lattise Company. At the same time, he was employed part-time as maitre d' at the Crystal Restaurant, where he learned the intricacies of the restaurant business. He used this knowledge to his benefit when he became a partner with his two brother-in-laws, as they together, owned and operated the Riveredge Restaurant for many years until his retirement in 1999. Taso enjoyed planting his vegetable garden every year.

In 1961, Taso married the former Athena Limberiou. They were blessed with two children: Maria, who is married to Anthony Saravanos; they have three children (Kostas, Anastasi, and Alexia) and Demosthenes, who passed away in 2014. Anastasios passed away on June 15, 2015.

May Their Memory Be Eternal.

# ZEPPOS

**Peter** Demosthenes
1933-

**Maria (Houhouli)**
1933-

Peter Demosthenis Zeppos was born on January 7, 1933 in Vlahokerasia, Greece to Demosthenes and Magdelina Zeppos. He immigrated to Reading on June 7, 1951. He was involved in a long and successful career as a restauranteur in their family restaurant business. He began his career at the Crystal Restaurant in Reading.

Peter served in the U.S. Army from April 15, 1953 to April 15, 1955 where he was stationed in Germany. He also served as a cook for the Army.

Maria (Houhouli) was born in Vlahokerasia, Greece on February 10, 1933 and immigrated to Reading in November, 1958. Prior to coming to the U.S., Maria attended college in Athens. She is one of five siblings that still reside in Greece. In addition to being involved in the family restaurants, Maria was an English tutor for Greek children for the Lebanon School District.

Peter and Maria were married on April 20, 1958. Peter and Maria have two children. A daughter Toula (Zeppos) Miller, who attended Albright College and a son, Vasilios, who attended the University of Pennsylvania.

Initially, Peter, his brother Gust, and his father began their restaurant career by purchasing the Eat Well Restaurant in Lebanon in 1956. Another establishment, The Eat Well Diner, was then purchased in 1962. The Zeppos family continued to grow their restaurant business, as Peter and his brothers owned and operated other successful restaurants: The Hitching Post, Schmeck's Family Restaurant, and The Penn Diner, until their recent retirement.

Peter was also a member of the AHEPA and can faithfully be found in the kitchen with his brothers, diligently preparing and cooking for the Church's Annual Greek Food Bazaar.

The entire Zeppos Family has always and continues to actively support our beloved Church in any capacity necessary.

# ZEPPOS

**Vasilios**
**1966-**

**Katerina (Lekka)**
**1975-**

Vasilios Zeppos was born in Lebanon, PA and works as an Engineer for Exelon Corporation.

His wife, Katerina (Lekka) was born in Athens, Greece. They have two children; Maria (5) and Panagiotis (2).

The family currently resides in Lititz, PA.

# ZEPPOS

**Alex**
**1940-**

**Filippia (Kotsina)**
**1951-**

Alex Zeppos was born on May 11, 1940 in Vlahokerasia, Greece and immigrated to Reading in 1955. Alex began his education in Greece and completed his education here in Reading, graduating from Reading High School.

Alex continued his education at Penn State Berks in the Food Services education curriculum, preparing him for what would turn into a long and successful career in the family restaurant business. Alex also served in the military in Vietnam from 1960 to 1962.

Filippia was born on September 14, 1951 in Vlahokerasia, Greece and was also educated in Greece, graduating from the University of Athens with a degree in Education/Political Science.

After Alex and Filippia were married, they ventured into the restaurant business with his brothers Peter, Gus and George. The Zeppos family continued to grow their restaurant businesses to eventually owning and operating four successful restaurants, The Hitching Post, Schmeck's Family Restaurant, the Eat Well Diner and The Penn Diner until their recent retirement from the restaurant business.

Alex and Filippia have two sons, Demosthenis and George; both have been active Church members for many years, serving the Church in any capacity necessary because of the example set by their parents.

Alex was a Parish Council member from 1974 to 1978 as well as AHEPA Secretary during these same years.

The Zeppos Family has always continued to actively support our beloved Church in any capacity necessary.

# ZEPPOS

**George**
**1975-**

**Eleny (Fotis)**
**1976-**

George Zeppos was born on February 9, 1975 in Reading, PA to Alex and Filippia Zeppos. George was raised and educated in Reading. He graduated from Wyomissing Area High School and Ursinus College where he earned a B.A. Degree in Political Science.

Eleny (Fotis) was born in Boston, Massachusetts on July 21, 1976.

George and Eleny were married and have twin boys: Aleko George and Christopher George Zeppos, age 5.

George served as an Altar Boy and continues to serve the Church in any capacity necessary because of the example set by his parents.

Following his family's footsteps, George is self-employed as the owner and operator of two local restaurants, The Hitching Post and Willoughby's.

The entire Zeppos family has always, and continues to actively support Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church in any capacity necessary.

# ZEPPOS

**George D.**
**1945-**

**Diane S. (Schrenko)**
**1947-**

George D. Zeppos was born on December 11, 1945 in Vlahokerasia, Greece and immigrated to Reading in 1955. George began his education in Greece and completed his education here in Reading graduating from Reading High School. George continued his education at Penn State University graduating with a B.A degree in History, preparing him for what would turn into a long and successful career as a teacher, then a restauranteur in his family business.

Diane (Schrenko) was born in Bethlehem, PA on May 30, 1947. She was raised and educated in Bethlehem, PA. She graduated from Notre Dame High School in Easton. Diane furthered her education when she graduated from St. Joseph's Nursing School with an RN Nursing Degree.

George and Diane were married in 1971. They have two sons, Alexander and Christopher, and have been active church members for many years. Both sons served as Altar Boys and have served the Church in any capacity necessary because of the example set by their parents. Alexander is a graduate of Villanova University and is married to the former Colleen Murphy; they have two children: Alecko (age 11) and Sophia (age 8). Christopher graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy and has a daughter, Chloe (age 8).

After George retired from teaching, he entered into the restaurant business with his brothers: Peter, Gus, and Alex. The Zeppos Family continued to grow their restaurant businesses to eventually owning and operating four successful restaurants: The Hitching Post, Schmeck's Family Restaurant, The Eat Well Diner and The Penn Dutch Diner until their recent retirement from the business.

George was also a member of the AHEPA, The Lions Club and the Masons 406 organizations.

The entire Zeppos Family has always continued to actively support Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. George and Diane volunteer at the Church's annual food bazaar.

# ZEPPOS

**Alexander**
**1974-**

**Colleen (Murphy)**
**1975-**

Alexander Zeppos was born on April 16, 1974 in Reading, PA to George and Diane Zeppos. Alex was raised and educated in Reading.

Alexander continued his education at Villanova University and graduated with a B.A. Degree in History.

Colleen (Murphy) was born in Summit, New Jersey on February 14, 1975.

Alexander and Colleen were married and have two children: Alexander George, Jr. and Sophia Joy Zeppos

Alexander was an Altar Boy and serves the Church in any capacity necessary because of the example set by his parents. He was also a member of the AHEPA and served as Vice President of the Wyomissing Soccer Club since 2011. Alexander is self-employed as the owner and operator of a local beverage distribution company.

The entire Zeppos Family has always continued to actively support our beloved Church in any capacity necessary.

# ZERVANOS

**George**
**1905-1978**

**Smarathitsa (Koliopoulos)**
**1924-2003**

George Zervanos was born on the Greek Island of Kos, on May 28, 1905 to Dimitrios John Zervanos and Thalia (Platanistra) Zervanos. He completed his schooling in Kos and immigrated to the United States on October 22, 1920. He worked as a waiter with his cousin Michael Zervanos at the Brighter Restaurant in Reading. He served in the United States Army during WWII. He was a member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and was a member of the GAPA. He died in 1978 in Athens, Greece.

Smarathitsa Koliopoulos was born in Kos, Greece to Konstatinos and Katerina (Miros) Koliopoulos in 1924 and immigrated to the United States in 1950. She died in 2003 in Athens, Greece.

George and Smarathistsa were married on February 22, 1948 and lived in Reading, before moving back to Greece in 1963. They had no children.

May their memory be eternal.

# ZERVANOS

**James**
**1890-1961**

**Maria (Stamatiades)**
**1893-1990**

James Zervanos was born on March 3, 1890 on the Island of Kos and immigrated to the United States in 1906. He first settled in Lititz, Pennsylvania and worked at the Animal Trap Company. He came to Reading in 1908 where he was the first Greek employed at the Berkshire Knitting Mills. He worked as a dye house color inspector for 40 years before retiring.

James Zervanos was a Sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War I and served in France. He returned to his work at the Berkshire Knitting Mills until he returned to Greece in 1920 and in 1921 he married the former Maria Stamatiades. Maria was born in 1893 in Kos to Hippocrates and Dionysia (Hatziphillipi) Stamatiadis. They had three children, Hippocrates (died as newborn), Alexis (1924-2011), and Emanuel (1925-1929). In 1927, they came to the United States where they settled in West Reading. James resumed work at the Berkshire Knitting Mills.

He was one of the original founders of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and was a significant part of our Church history. He was Parish Council President in 1932 and 1933, and Vice President in 1951. He was instrumental in starting the church choir. He was also an active member of AHEPA, GAPA, and the VFW.

James Zervanos died on March 7, 1961. Maria died in 1990.

May their memory be eternal.

# ZERVANOS

**Alexis**
**1924-2011**

**Seva "Sevasmia" (Joachim)**
**1928-2013**

Alexis Zervanos was born on March 2, 1924 on the island of Kos. He immigrated to America with his brother Emanuel and parents, James and Maria, in 1927. He lived with his parents at 319 Sunset Blvd. in West Reading and graduated from West Reading High in 1942. He was elected president of his class in his senior year and also selected as the outstanding senior at graduation. He was also a member of the varsity baseball, tennis, and J.V. basketball teams. He had one of the highest batting averages on record at West Reading High School.

He served in the army during WW II and, during basic training at camp Wallace, Texas, he was selected as outstanding soldier of his battalion. He received two battle stars in the invasion of Biak and Noembfor in the Pacific. He graduated from Albright College in 1949 and from Georgetown Law School in 1954. For a while he served as principal of Honeybrook Elementary School. He served as an Assistant District Attorney and practiced law until he retired in 2001. He was a member of the Berks County Bar Association and PA Bar Association. He was also a member of the Endlich Law Club and served as secretary, VP and President of this organization.

Seva "Sevasmia" was born on July 7, 1928 in Hyannis, Massachusetts to John and Dionyssia (Demetras) Joakim. Seva received her B.S. degree from Simmons College and was an elementary teacher for the Twin Valley School District until her retirement in 1993. Her hobbies were cooking and sewing.

Alex and Seva were married in 1953.

Alex was co-chair of the building committee of the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church as well as Vice President in 1961 and 1964, and as President in 1962. Alex was also a member of AHEPA and GAPA. He died June 30, 2011.

Seva was a member of the Philoptochos and Daughters of Penelope. She was a church organist and chaired the Church's Greek Cookbook Committee. Alex and Seva had no children. Seva died on December 10, 2013.

# ZERVANOS

**John**
**1892-1960**

**Maria (Hatzistergou)**
**1896-1970**

John Alexios Zervanos was born in Kos town on the island of Kos of the Dodecanese on February 29, 1892 to Alexios and Eulalia (Nicolaides) Zervanos. His father, Alexios, studied philologia (humanities) at the University of Athens and helped to reestablish the school system in Kos in the 1880s. They had eight children, four sons and four daughters. Their eldest son, Hippocrates, became a physician and the next two sons, James "Dimitrios" and John "Ioannis" came to America. James (1890-1961) arrived in Lititz in June 1906 to join up with their first cousin, Kosta Miros, to work in the Animal Trap Company.

John arrived one year later with more than thirty other Greek immigrants, most destined for Lititz to join other compatriots to work at the factory. By early 1908, the Zervanos brothers learned of better paying jobs at the newly established Berkshire Knitting Mills. They, and others from Lititz, moved to Reading where they worked for the rest of their working lives. They went back to Kos to marry. John and Maria (Economides) Zervanos were married in 1924 and had children: Julia (1925-1928), Chris born in 1929, Alex in 1935, and Nikitas in 1936.

John joined the U.S. Army in 1918 during World War I and served as a medic. He was stationed in Detroit, Michigan. John was active in the early development of the Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church of Reading, as well as the Greek American Progressive Association. John died in October, 1960.

Maria was born on December 25, 1896 to Nikitas and Christofilina (Hatzistergou) Economides from the mountain village of Asfendiou several miles from Kos town. Maria's father was a merchant and traveled throughout the Mediterranean. Maria and John came to the United States in 1925. She died in May, 1970.

# ZERVANOS

**Christ J.**
**1929-**

**Hariklia (Fournaris)**
**1931-**

Christ J. Zervanos was born in Reading, PA on August 17, 1929 to John and Maria (Economides) Zervanos. He has two brothers, Alexis and Nikitas. Chris graduated from Albright College in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and received a Master of Governmental Administration degree from the Fels Institute of Government, University of Pennsylvania, in 1953. Following completion of his graduate studies, Chris served for nearly two years in the United States Army as a Personnel Management Specialist with the Adjutant General's Corps in Heidelberg, Germany. Chris returned home in 1955 and accepted a position in the Governor's Office in Harrisburg as staff assistant to the Secretary of Administration. It was the start of a career in Pennsylvania State government, which encompassed about 40 years of service in various positions in the Office of Adminsitration, including Director of Personnel and Director of Labor Relations. After retiring, he received a gubernatorial appointment in 2001 as one of five public members of the Public Employee Retirement Commission until February, 2015.

Chris had been active at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church as a Greek School student and Altar boy.

Hariklia Zervanos was born in Reading, PA on April 8, 1931 to Nicholas and Thalia (Yianoulis) Fournaris. She has a younger sister, Irene Davlantes, living in Michigan. Hariklia graduated in 1957 from Kutztown State College, now Kutztown University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. She was employed by the Reading School District until 1959 when she married Christ Zervanos and moved to Harrisburg where she worked for the Central Dauphin School District. She also completed some graduate studies with Temple University extension.

Hariklia was an active member of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. She attended Greek School on Walnut Street, was a member of the Church Choir, and served as a Sunday School teacher. In the summer of 1958, she attended a two-week Sunday School seminar at St. Basil's Academy. In addition, she was a member of the Daughters of Penelope and served as its president.

Chris and Hariklia were married at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church on August 23, 1959 and currently live Harrisburg. They have two sons, John and Nicholas, and four grandchildren. They are very active at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Camp Hill. Chris is a past Sunday School supervisor, Parish Council member and secretary; he chaired various committees and is currently president of the Sts. Joachim & Anna Society, the senior citizens organization of the parish. Hariklia is an active member and past president of the Philoptochos chapter and continues to teach Sunday School.

Both Chris and Hariklia are also involved in other organizations; he is involved in professional groups and she has been a docent for the State Museum of Pennsylvania until recently.

# ZERVANOS

**Alex John**
**1935-**

Alexios "Alex" John Zervanos was born on January 21, 1935 in West Reading, Pennsylvania to John Alexios and Maria (Economides) Zervanos. He had one sister, Julia (born in 1925), who died at age 3, and 2 living brothers, Chris, born in 1929, and Nikita, born in 1936. Alex was active in the Sunday school program, a regular Greek School attendee, and participated in the choir and the GOYA.

Alex graduated near the top of his class from Reading High School in 1953, matriculated to Yale University where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1961. He completed graduate studies in Byzantine History at Harvard University and 17th century English History at the University of Wisconsin. He also studied at the University of London in England, and while working on the completion of his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin, he taught History at both the University of Illinois and the University of California at Riverside. After brief stints conducting research at the Pennsylvania Museum of History in Harrisburg and working in the Model Cities Program in Reading, he had difficulty maintaining gainful employment because of a psychological disability. He continued to live in the Reading area until January 2012 when he moved to Lancaster and took up residence in the Evergreen Retirement Community where he now lives.

Alex never married and has no children. He has maintained a keen interest in history and politics and has continued his studies in these areas. He enjoys a close relationship with his brothers and still sees his cousins from time to time.

# ZERVANOS

**Nikitas**
**1936-**

**Diana (Fournaris)**
**1938-**

Nikita "Nik" John Zervanos was born on March 16, 1936 in Reading, Pennsylvania to John and Maria (Economides) Zervanos. He had one sister, Julia (1925-1928) and has two brothers, Chris (1929) and Alex (1935). After Reading High School he graduated from Albright College in 1958. He participated in the Greek School, Sunday school, GOYA, and the choir, where he served as choir president.

After medical school (University of Pennsylvania, 1962), he completed an internship at Lancaster General Hospital, then served in the U.S. Army as a medical corps officer in Greece from 1963 to 1966. He did a medical residency (Philadelphia VA and Hospital of University of Pennsylvania) between 1966-68 and a fellowship in Family Health Care at Harvard in 1969, following which he assumed the directorship of one of the first residency programs in the new specialty of family medicine at Lancaster General Hospital. He is Clinical Professor of Family Medicine at Temple University School of Medicine and directs Temple's nationally recognized continuing medical education "Family Practice Review." He has been a member of many medical professional & civic organizations & recognized as a leader in the specialty of Family Medicine. He was the first recipient of the annual Association of Family Medicine Program Directors Outstanding Family Medicine Program Directors Award, now named in his honor. His medical school established the annual NJ Zervanos award for the most outstanding Penn student choosing a career in family medicine. In 2002, Lancaster General established Nikitas J. Zervanos Center of Family Medicine Education. He is an AHEPan and has been a long-standing member of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church of Lancaster and a Sunday school teacher for more than 45 years.

Nikita and Diana Fournaris of Lancaster were married in June, 1958. Diana is a graduate of McCaskey High School and Linden Hall Jr. College. During the years in Philadelphia she served as a medical secretary for the Social Services Department at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. They have three children: John was born in 1961 and is a senior partner in Soloff & Zervanos Law Firm in Philadelphia; Susan was born in 1964 and taught second grade in the Lampeter Strasburg School District for six years; James was born in 1969 and is a high school teacher at Penncrest High School and a writer. John married Tricia Wood and they have three daughters, Christina, Erica and Juliette. Susan married Niko Veronis. They have two children, Rachel and Nikita. Jim married Evangelia "Vana" Pilalis Miller. They have two sons, Nikitas and Victor.

# ZERVANOS

**John**
**1961-**

**Tricia (Wood)**
**1960-**

John Nikitas Zervanos was born in Philadelphia on November 29, 1961 to Dr. Nikita and Diana (Fournaris) Zervanos. He graduated from Manheim Township High School, Lancaster County in 1979; from Franklin & Marshall College in 1983; and from Temple University Law School in 1986. He is the senior partner in Soloff and Zervanos Law Firm in Philadelphia.

Tricia White was born on July 29, 1960. She graduated from Philadelphia's Archbishop Wood Catholic High School in 1978 and from Drexel University in Fashion Design in 1982. She operated her own store of fashion design for six years.

John and Tricia were married on February 7, 1992. They live in Malvern, Chester County and have three daughters: Christina (from Tricia's previous marriage), born on December 10, 1986, is a 2003 graduate of Great Valley High School in Chester County and a 2007 graduate of Boston University. She works in New York in retail and marketing; Erica Lauren, born on December 3, 1992, will be graduating in June 2016 from Temple University with a degree in Communications; and Juliette Francis, born on November 9, 1999, will be graduating from Great Valley High School in 2017.

# ZERVANOS/VERONIS

**Nicholas "Niko" Alexander**
**1960-**

**Susan (Zervanos)**
**1964-**

Susan Marie "Stergia Maria" was born in Athens, Greece on April 6, 1964 to Dr. Nikitas and Diana (Fournaris) Zervanos during her father's military service with the U.S. Army. She graduated from Manheim Township High School, Lancaster County in 1982 and from Franklin & Marshall College in 1986. She earned a Master in Education from Widener University. She taught second graders in the Lampeter Strasburg School District for six years.

Nicholas Alexander Veronis was born in Athens, Greece on January 29, 1960 to Father Alexander and Pearl Veronis while his father was completing graduate studies in theology. Niko graduated from McCaskey High School in Lancaster in 1978, from Lafayette College in 1982, and from the University of Pittsburgh Law School in 1985. He practices law in Lancaster, PA and served as council president of the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church for more than six years.

Niko and Susan were married on August 31, 1986. They have two children: Rachel Diana, born May 4, 1992, is a 2014 graduate of St. Joseph's University where she earned a B.S. in Education and is teaching first graders in West Philadelphia; Nikitas Alexander, born February 8, 1994, will be graduating from Temple University in 2016, and plans on pursuing an MBA.

# ZERVANOS

**James Timothy**
**1969-**

**Evangelia "Vana" (Pilalis Miller)**
**1975-**

James Timothy Zervanos was born in Lancaster, PA on November 11, 1969 to Dr. Nikita and Diana (Fournaris) Zervanos. He graduated from Manheim Township High School, Lancaster County in 1987 and as an Academic All-American from Bucknell University in 1981. He completed 1½ years of Temple Law and returned to Bucknell to acquire a Masters in English in 1994 and a MFA from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC in 2004. He has been teaching Creative Writing at Penncrest High School, Delaware County since 1994. He is also a writer and author of *Love Park,* a novel of a Greek-American family living in Philadelphia.

Evangelia "Vana" (Pilalis Miller) was born in Lancaster, PA on June 28, 1975 to Andrew and Victoria (Pilalis) Miller. Vana is a 1993 graduate of McCaskey High School, a 1997 graduate of Dickenson University with a Master's Degree in Psychology from the University of Connecticut in 1999 and an MBA from St. Joseph's University in 2008. She is the Associate Dean in the Erivan K. Haub School of Business at St. Joseph's University

James and Vana were married in June, 2005 and they have two sons: Nikitas James, born on July 12, 2010 and Victor Alberto, born on February 16, 2014. They live in Bala Cynwyd, Philadelphia.

# ZERVANOS

**Michael**
**1899-1987**

**Vasiliki (Fournaris)**
**1915-2006**

Michael Zervanos was born on the Greek Island of Kos, on November 8, 1899 to Stamatis and Ekaterina (Coyopoulos) Zervanos. He was the youngest of five children. Michael completed his schooling in Kos and immigrated to the United States in April of 1916. He first settled in Reading at 137 South 4th Street with his cousins James and John Zervanos.

Michael first worked at the Crystal Restaurant, where he learned the restaurant business. In 1922 he opened the Brighter Restaurant at 217 Penn Street, with Louis Ganas. Michael operated the restaurant for 57 years until he retired in 1979.

He was one of the early members of Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church and attended church regularly. He was also a member of the AHEPA and GAPA organizations. He died October 5, 1987.

Vasiliki Fournaris was born in Reading to Evimeros and Marigo (Pazakis) Fournaris on November 29, 1915. She was one of six children. Vasiliki spent her school years in Hyannis, Massachusetts where she graduated from Barnstable High School. Vasiliki worked in Hyannis as a salesperson. She also helped her husband at the Brighter Restaurant from 1968 to 1979. She was an active member of St. Xenia Philoptohos Society and the Albright Women's Auxiliary. Vasiliki died December 6, 2006.

Michael and Vasiliki were married on June 22, 1941 and lived at 130 South 4th Street from 1941 to 1987. They have two sons: Stamatis and Evimeros and five grandchildren.

May their memory be eternal.

# ZERVANOS

**Stamatis**
**1942-**

**Joyce (Baxewanis)**
**1943-**

Stamatis "Stam" Michael Zervanos was born on June 4, 1942 in Reading, Pennsylvania to parents, Michael and Vasiliki (Fournaris) Zervanos. He has one brother, Evimeros. Stam received his B.S. degree in Biology from Albright College in 1965; a M.S. degree in Zoology from the Pennsylvania State University in 1967; and a Ph.D. degree in Animal Physiology from Arizona State University in 1972. He is an Emeritus Professor of Biology at Penn State University. He has held several offices at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, including President and Vice-President of the Parish Council and Food Bazaar Chairman. He also has served as GOYA advisor, served as alter boy and sang in the choir. He is active in the Berks County Conservancy and the Torch Club, where he served as President in both organizations. His accomplishments include being the Director of Academic Affairs at Penn State's Berks Campus and an internationally recognized research biologist. He has traveled widely and has published numerous scientific articles on mammalian physiological adaptations.

Joyce Zervanos was born on May 11, 1943 in Reading, Pennsylvania to parents George and Mary (Chaknos) Baxewanis. She has one sister, Ann (Baxewanis) Kraras. Joyce received her B.S. in Education from East Stroudsburg University in 1965; her M.Ed. degree from Penn State University in 1967; and a Reading Specialist Degree from Millersville University. Joyce was employed as an Elementary Education teacher by the Wilson School District. She has held several Church offices, including Philoptochos Board Member and Philoptochos President. She has been a choir member and church organist for over 50 years. She also served as a GOYA advisor. She was involved with the Junior League of Reading, the Wyomissing Junior Women's Club, and Executive Board Member of Wilson Federation of Teachers.

Stam and Joyce were married on December 26, 1965. They have two children Mary Michelle and Michael Stam. Mary is married to Mark Dialectos. They have two daughters, Jocelyn and Karissa. Michael is married to Catherine Fecera. They have two daughters, Ella and Ava.

# ZERVANOS

**Michael Stam**
**1971-**

**Catherine (Fecera)**
**1976-**

Michael Stam Zervanos was born in 1971 in Mesa, Arizona to Stam and Joyce (Baxewanis) Zervanos. He has one sister, Mary Dialectos. Michael graduated from Wyomissing Area High School in 1989 and from Penn State University in 1993 with a B.S. Degree in Business. He is employed by White Star Tours.

Michael was a member of GOYA and played on its basketball team. He also served as an altar boy and is currently a member of AHEPA.

Catherine (Fecera) Zervanos was born in 1976; she is the daughter of Arthur and Connie Fecera. Catherine graduated from Exeter High School in 1994 and from Alvernia College in 1998 with a B.S. Degree in Elementary Education. She is employed as an elementary education teacher by the Exeter School District.

Michael and Catherine were married on June 28, 2003. They have two daughters, Ella (b. 2006) and Ava (b. 2011). Both girls attend Sunday School and participate in the annual Christmas Pageant.

# ZERVANOS

**Evan**
**1943-**

**Sandra (Sianis)**
**1948-**

Evan "Evimeros" M. Zervanos was born in Reading on October 1, 1943 to Michael and Vasiliki (Fournaris) Zervanos. He is a graduate of Reading High School, Albright College, and Temple University. He taught physics, math, and other science courses at Twin Valley High School from 1966 to 2001 and was an adjunct instructor at RACC from 2002 to 2012. He attended Greek School and Sunday School, sang in the Junior Choir, served as an Altar Boy, and was a member of G.O.Y.A., later becoming an advisor. He is a member of AHEPA and both church choirs. He is a "left-side chanter," cooks for the annual bazaar and the shelter, and is a rare blood donor.

Sandra F. (Sianis) Zervanos was born in Reading on October 24, 1948 to Christ and Mary (Lamprinos) Sianis. She is a graduate of Wilson High School. She is manager of the jewelry department for Boscov's at the Berkshire Mall. She attended Sunday School and Greek School, was a member of G.O.Y.A. and the choir, served as a G.O.Y.A. advisor, taught Sunday School for twenty-five years. She is a member of the Philoptochos Society and was a past president of Philoptochos.

Evan and Sandra were married on June 23, 1968. They have three sons: Michael E., Christopher, and Stephen. They are blessed with seven grandchildren: Matthew, Tyler, Alessandra, Emma, Nicholas, Elaine, and Aubriana.

# ZERVANOS

**Michael E.**
**1971-**

**Lisa (Patacconi)**
**1979-**

Michael E. Zervanos was born in Reading on July 29, 1971 to Evan and Sandra (Sianis) Zervanos. He is a graduate of Wilson High School and Penn State University with a degree in Finance. He is employed by FedEx Ground Mail in Pittsburgh. He attended Sunday School and Greek School, served as an Altar Boy, and was a member of G.O.Y.A. He played soccer in high school and has coached youth league baseball and soccer.

Lisa Patacconi Zervanos was born in Bloomsburg, PA on June 12, 1979 to Anthony and Mary Patacconi. She is a graduate of York College and is employed as an account specialist at ARL Network. She played and coached youth soccer.

Michael and Lisa were married on February 22, 2003 and live in Hopewell, PA. They have two chidlren, Tyler and Emma, who are students in the Hopewell School District. Michael has a son Matthew, from is first marriage to Karen Henry. Matthew is a graduate of Parkland High School and is a student at RACC.

# ZERVANOS

**Christopher**
**1974-**

**Stephanie (Buchanan)**
**1973-**

Christopher Zervanos was born in Reading on October 23, 1974 to Evan and Sandra (Sianis) Zervanos. He is a graduate of Wilson High School and Penn State University with a degree in Marketing. He is employed by Repco 2 in Pittsburgh, PA. He attended Sunday School and Greek School, served as an Altar Boy, and was a member of G.O.Y.A. He was on the baseball, soccer, golf, bowling, and cross-country teams. At his present church, All Saints in Cannonsburg, he was on the Church Council and is an AHEPA member.

Stephanie Buchanan Zervanos was born in Pittsburgh on December 29, 1973 to Steven and Sally Buchanan. She is a graduate of Upper St. Clair High School and Penn State University. She is an elementary school teacher for Chartiers Valley School District.

Chris and Steph were married on October 9, 1999. They live in Oakdale, PA. They have three children: Alessandra, Nicholas, and Elaina. The children attend Chartiers Valley Schools and go to Sunday School at All Saints.

# ZERVANOS

**Stephen**
**1981-**

**Luisa (Giannotti)**
**1984-**

Stephen Zervanos was born in Reading on March 6, 1981 to Evan and Sandra (Sianis) Zervanos. He is a graduate of Wilson High School and Penn State University with a degree in Marketing. He is employed by Morgan Corporation in Morgantown, PA. He attended Sunday School and Greek School, served as an Altar Boy, and was a member of G.O.Y.A. He played baseball, volleyball, soccer, and basketball; he coached G.O.Y.A. basketball. He is an AHEPA member.

Luisa Giannotti Zervanos was born in Reading on April 27, 1984 to Ninno and Joanna Giannotti. She is a graduate of Wyomissing High School and BTI. She is employed by the Reading Health System as a medical assistant. She played basketball and soccer in high school. She was an assistant basketball coach.

Stephen and Luisa were married on April 17, 2010. They live in Wyomissing and have a daughter, Aubriana, who attends nursery school.

# ZESWITZ

**William**
**1917-2004**

**Elizabeth (Carnoles)**
**1927-**

Elizabeth was born in Reading, PA in 1927. She is the daughter of Peter and Despina Carnoles. Elizabeth is a graduate of Reading High School and worked for many years as Vice-President of Zeswitz Music Company.

She was married to William Zeswitz, who was born in Philadelphia, PA in 1917 to William H. and Emma (Kleschwitz) Zeswitz. He was the owner of the Zeswitz Music Store and the 1949 Berks County tennis champion. He was also a board member of the Reading Symphony Orchestra.

Elizabeth has two daughters, Victoria Paskaly, a graduate of Wyomissing High School and Albright College and Lisa Paskaly, a graduate of Wyomissing High School and the University of Maryland.

Elizabeth is a member of the St. Xenia Philoptochos Society. She can often be found assisting in the baking of the pastries for our Annual Bazaars and Bake Sales.

# ZOGAS

**Gust**
**1931-**

**Doris (Pasyotis)**
**1931-**

Gust was born in Reading, PA in 1931 to Haralambos and Maria (Kypriotis) Zogas. Gust's father was one of the early emigrants from Lesvos, Greece who arrived in America in 1914. His mother, Maria, arrived some time later. The couple soon married and had four sons.

After serving in the Army during the Korean War, Gust enrolled in college and received his B.S. in Education from Kutztown University. Subsequently, he earned his M.Ed. from Temple University and his PhD from Nova University in 1981. Gust taught geography at Northeast Jr. High School and was a Vice Principal at Southern Jr. High School. In 1974, Dr. Zogas joined the staff of Reading Area Community College, and in 1986 he was selected to lead the college as its third President. Gust also served as Executive Director at the Goggle Works Center for the Arts. He has been very active in local civic organizations and education groups, having served on the Board of Directors of the American Red Cross, Berks Community Television, Greater Berks Development Fund, Reading New Futures Board, and the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges.

Doris, born in 1931 to Thomas Pasyotis, a noted sign painter and accomplished artist who came to America when he was four years old, and Frances Pasyotis, a nurse and talented photographer. Doris graduated from Kutztown State College and taught in various elementary schools. Having acquired her father's artistic talent, Doris devoted more time to painting after her retirement. She developed an interest in watercolor and began studying under numerous well-known watercolorists in New Jersey, Maine, and Mexico. Doris' art, which features scenes along the New Jersey shore, has been exhibited in juried art shows, sold in galleries in Stone Harbor, Avalon, and Reading, and can be found in many private collections.

Gust is a past member of the Parish Council, where he served as Vice President and President. He also serves our parish during the annual Food Bazaar. He and Doris have one son and two daughters. Thomas is a Metallurgical Engineer with Carpenter Technology, and is married to Linda, a nurse. They are the parents of three children. Chrissada is a graduate of RACC and Bloomsburg University and works in the vocational services department of Wernersville State Hospital. She is married to Kevin Caruso, a former supervisor at Penn Optical. Elayne, a graduate of Pittsburgh University, is a partner in ImagEVolution, a public relations and advertising firm. She and her husband, Blaize Polentes, have three children and reside in Bethlehem.

## EDUCATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR PARISHIONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our Greek Orthodox Community of Sts. Constantine & Helen of Reading has always had a strong emphasis on educating our children. When we trace our 100-year history, we find that the only early graduates of colleges in the 1930s from our Parish were George Pasayotis, Demetra Paskopoulos, George Paskopoulos, and Louis Sofianos.

In completing over 350 family histories for this Album, we have traced over 400 Parishioners from our Community who have advanced educational degrees.

The following is a list that we compiled from the Histories of Parishioners who either have Bachelors or Masters Degrees and, in some cases, Doctorate Degrees.

This is not purported to be a full list or a fully accurate one. It is a rough study to show the degree of appreciation our ancestors gave to higher education.

Maryann Agre
Kristina Antonellos
Leonidas Antonellos
Rhea Antonellos
Crisanne Bansner
Angie Barakos
Joann Baxewanis
John Baxewanis
Paula Berstler
Edward Breen
Stephanie Breen
Anna Burkman
Marianthi Caloiero
Andrew Cammarano
Angel Cammarano
Mauro Cammarano
Sophia Cammarano
Alexis Campbell
Andrew Campbell
Vlacia Campbell
Derek Care
Juliane Care Lane
Maria Care
Robert Care
Timothy Care
Chris Carley
Constantine Chaknos
Isabel Chaknos
Karen Chaknos
Katie Chaknos
Kelly Chaknos
Mark Chaknos
Michael Chaknos
Socrates Choumbakos
Christian Chupak
Daniel Chupak
Jennifer Chupak
Joshua Chupak
James Cicero
Vanessa Cicero
Constantine Comins
Maria Crassas
Thomas Crassas
Louis Dalaveris
Anthony Damore
Maria Damore
Laura Delp
Despina Denne
Michael DeSantis
Adam Dialectos
Athan Dialectos
Jordan Dialectos
Mark Dialectos
Mary Dialectos
Rachel Dialectos
Christos Dikos
Emmanuel Dimitriou
Harry Dimitriou
Patricia Donahue
George Doukas
Elizabeth Dowiak
Eric Dowiak
Michelle Edwards
Philip Edwards
Amy Elliker
Argyro Elliker
James Elliker
Stephen Elliker
Elaine Ermentrout
Gerald Ermentrout
Gregg Ermentrout
Julie Ermentrout
Ryan Ermentrout
Dean Exas
Annette Fecera
Chris Fecera
Jarett Fernez
Jennifer Fernez
Greg Fisher
Barbara Futrick
Michael Futrick
Staci Futrick
Christ Ganas
Christie Ganas Sher
Anthony Geras
George Giovanis
Joan Giovanis
Richard Goodhart
Despina Goodhart Vielleux
Richard Goodhart, Jr.
Michael Gordon
Augustus Hatzas
Angel Helm
Austin Helm
Scott Helm
Denise Hoffman
Anne-Margaret Holden
Gary Holden
Gregory Holden
Marilyn Holden
Ralli Holden
Marisa Hunsicker
Scott Hunsicker
Christos Ioannidi
John Ioannidi
Olivia Ioannidi
Anastasia Ioannidis
Angela Ioannidis
Panagiotis Ioannidis
Alan Kachel
Jeffrey Kaisoglus
Nicholas Kallis
Panagiotis Kallis
Vasilios Kallis
Alice Karetas
Nicholas Karetas
Victor Koci
Cynthia Kontaxes
Michael Kontaxes
Metaxia Kostomeris
Demetrios Kostomiris
Michael Kostomiris
Nicholas Kostomiris
Apasia Kotsakis
Carolyn Koumaras
George Koumaras
Michael A. Koumaras
Sophia Koumaras
Mary Koursaros
George Krallis
Nick Krallis
Cheryl Kramer Zabrecchi
James Kramer
Jon Kramer
Nicole Kramer
Ann Kraras
Christ Kraras
Dean Kraras
Jennifer Kraras
Cory Kriebel
Maria Kriebel
Gary Kunkelman
Katherine Kunkelman
Gregory Labe
Stephanie Labe
Charles Lambriodes
Constantine Lambros
Evan Lambros
Felicia Lambros
Mim Lambros
Nicholas Lambros
Anastasia Lawrence
Shane Lawrence
Joyce Lecatsas
Michelle Lecatsas
Spiro Lecatsas
Stephanie Lecatsas
Steve Lecatsas
Steve Lecatsas, Jr.
John Lountzis
Paul Lountzis
Sharon Lountzis
Kathleen Macaronis
Michael Macaronis
Philip Macaronis
Valerie Macaronis
Andrew Maoury
Heather Maoury
Bernie Mara
Christine Mara
Elaine Mara
Susan Mara
Leonidas Marcantonis

*(Continued on next page)*

## EDUCATIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR PARISHIONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Stephanie Marmarou
Stratton Marmarou
Anastasia Mavreles
Michael Mavreles
Michael A. Mavreles
Stephen Mavreles
Lawrence Medaglia, Sr.
Lawrence Medaglia, Jr.
Michelle Medaglia
Lisa Meitzler
Thomas Meitzler
Helen Midouhas
Matthew Midouhas
Andrew Miller
Christopher Miller
Elizabeth Miller
Eric Peter Miller
Matthew Miller
Michael Miller
Nicolette Miller
Rosemarie Miller
Toula Miller
Charles Mowbray
Kara Mowbray
Matthew Mowbray
Stella Mowbray
Benjamin Nicholas
James Nicholas
Maryanne Nicholas
Maureen Nicholas
Peter Nicholas
Peter (Dan) Nicholas III
Anastasia Noll
John Noll
Ernest Orphanos
Mary Orphanos
Nicholas Orphanos
Patricia Orphanos
Elaine Ott
Robert Ott
James Pace
Aspasia Panos
Euripides Panos
Marianthi Panos
Dolores Papoutsis
Pantelis Papoutsis
Anne Pappalas
Peter Pappalas
Thomas Pappalas (Rev.)
George Pasayotis
Gerasimos Pehlivanidis
Kathy Pehlivanidis
Anastasios Petrakis
Cynthia Petrakis
Dionysia Petrakis
Frank Petrakis
Kerri Petrakis
Archondia Petris Sourasis
Dimitri Petris
Lyvia Petris
Christ Pettis
George Pettis
Mary Pettis
Andrea Phyrillas
Louis Phyrillas
Margaret Phyrillas
Soula Phyrillas
Tony Phyrillas
Christopher Platanos
Despina Platanos
Kathryn Platanos
Stathi Platanos
Jenna Platanos Schmalzer
Felicia Platanos Walk
Fani Polyak
James Polyak
Dean Porcaro
Elaine Porcaro
Michelle Porcaro
Nicholas Porcaro
Jenifer Profit
Helen Psaros
Deborah Pyle
Justin Radwanski
Vicky Radwanski
Alexandra Richart
Andrew Richart
Stephen Richert
Adrian Richieru
Christina Rogers
Gary Rogers
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# ORDER OF AHEPA

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## READING, PA

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**Dean Whitman, Corresponding Secretary**
**Tony Phyrillas, Treasurer**

During a special meeting conducted on March 15, 2015 of Chapter #61, the renaming of our Chapter was approved in honor of **Brother Gust C. Kraras.** Gust is a life member of the Order of AHEPA with 70 years of distinguished service. He was initiated into the Order of AHEPA on December 6, 1945. Gust's achievements have been significant and notable undertakings. For many years, he organized the nationally famous Wildwood AHEPA Greek Weekend, which donated many thousands of dollars to AHEPA Scholarships. Brother Gust served as District Governor of the Fifth District in New Jersey. He is a Past President of the William Penn Chapter #61 in Reading, PA. In 2010, Gust had a vision to reinstate the Reading Chapter after a period of inactivity. He was the driving force behind the renewed interest in the William Penn Chapter #61. His guidance established renewed levels of achievement in all areas of our organization's development.

It is for these reasons that our chapter membership decided to rename our AHEPA Chapter #61 in Brother Gust's honor.

- Today, we are one of the fastest growing AHEPA Chapters in all of the AHEPA domain with over 100 active members.
- During the past four years, the Reading Chapter was honored in being selected as "Chapter of the Year".
- Although we have much to be proud of, the best is yet to come.

**ALL COSTS INCURRED IN THE PRODUCTION AND PRINTING OF THIS**

# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMEMORATIVE ALBUM

**HAVE BEEN UNDERWRITTEN BY A GRANT FROM**

# WHITE STAR TOURS
# AND
# THE KRARAS FAMILY

**Archon Gust C. Kraras**

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Tula (Kraras) Donahue
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## In Memory of Stella (Dialectos) Kraras

***This Centennial Commemorative Album was edited and produced by Archon Gust C. Kraras with the assistance of son, Christ G. Kraras, and daughter, Angel (Kraras) Cammarano And the staff of White Star Tours, especially Metaxia Kostomeris. Many thanks to Tony Phyrillas who spent many hours proof-reading the final version.***

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# OUR FIRST CHURCH

LEMON & CHESTNUT

1914 - 1946

# OUR SECOND CHURCH

8th & COURT

1946 - 1970